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VOLUME LXVI, NUMBER 20040

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Sunday comics



9 Arts & Entertainment
A jazz jubilee



19 Sports
Yanks sweep for Darryl

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Mordechai: Israel not part of Turkey-Syria dispute

By DANNA HARMAN and news agencies

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai has instructed the IDF to reduce some routine activities along the frontier with Syria to make it "clear beyond a shadow of a doubt" that Israel is not a party to the brewing dispute between Turkey and Syria, Mordechai's spokesman, Avi Benayahu, said last night.

Mordechai acted as Turkey was reported to be massing troops and armored vehicles along its border with Syria after stepping up accusations in recent days that Syria is supporting Turkish Kurdish rebels.

Turkish Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz was quoted as saying the army was planning an exercise along the Syrian border.

Syria denies sheltering the rebels and in a government statement yesterday confirmed "its keenness for good neighborly relations with Turkey" and its readiness to solve every issue through "diplomatic ways, in an atmosphere of trust."

Mordechai issued a statement saying that Israel is not interested in any conflict with Syria. "To the contrary, we are looking to restore talks with the Syrians," Benayahu said.

He noted that while Israel has "strategic ties" with Turkey, "these relations are not aimed against any other party."

Mordechai's statement added that "in order to make it clear beyond a shadow of a doubt that Israel is not a party in this matter, I've given instructions to decrease some of the routine activities along the border between Israel and Syria."

See TURKEY, Page 2

National parks face Succot strike

By LIAT COLLINS

Last-minute efforts will be made today to avert a threatened strike over the Succot holiday by workers of the Nature Protection and National Parks Authority.

On Friday, Tel Aviv District Labor Court rejected the request for a restraining order filed by NPNPA Director-General Aharon Vardi.

MK Micha Goldman (Labor), who chairs the Knesset Interior and Environment Committee, invited representatives of the workers' unions to his Kfar Tabor home on Friday and suggested they postpone the strike for a month or so to give a chance for the completion of negotiations with the Finance Ministry.

Goldman is to meet again today in Tel Aviv with Vardi and the union representatives to hear whether they have accepted his suggestion.

The unions have several demands stemming from the March merger of the Nature Reserves Authority and National Parks Authority. The three main issues are the compensation of workers who will lose their jobs as a result of the merger into one authority; conditions concerning the transfer of those workers whose jobs have moved from the Tel Aviv area to the NPNPA head office in Jerusalem; and equalizing the pay for workers of the two bodies.

See SUCCOT, Page 5

Holiday Candelighting

Jerusalem	4:45 p.m.
Tel Aviv	5:00 p.m.
Haifa	4:51 p.m.



Building together
A new immigrant from Ethiopia puts up his first sukkah in Israel on Friday at Jerusalem's Givat Hamatos neighborhood, assisted by a British volunteer from the Atid program.

Albright seeks key parts of deal

Indyk: PA pact could lead to Syrian talks

By HILLEL KUTTLER, DANNA HARMAN, STEVE RODAN, and MOHAMMED NAJIB

US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright hopes to reach several "partial understandings" with Israel and the Palestinian Authority during her visit to the region this week, a senior administration official said.

The Americans "want to downplay expectations" for Albright's visit, which is as much geared to generating a positive atmosphere for the follow-up Washington summit as it is to achieving anything concrete, the official said in Washington on Friday.

Albright and US envoy Dennis Ross are expected to arrive early Tuesday. Accompanying them are Assistant US Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Martin Indyk and Rob Malley, a new official on the National Security Council who deals with the Middle East.

Meanwhile, cabinet secretary

Dan Naveh and Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat are to meet this morning for discussions, while several working committees are also to convene today to discuss the Gaza Strip airport and industrial park, where most progress to date has been recorded, and where

government to resume the negotiations, which have been frozen for the past two years, in a positive and serious manner and to advance the peace process, because the continuation of the freeze will lead to a deterioration of security and an absence of security in the region," the PA cabinet said after its weekly session in Ramallah on Friday night.

The cabinet said it has directed negotiators to wrap up the issues holding up implementation of the interim accords. But it stressed that the issue remains Israel's commitment to carry out three withdrawals in the West Bank.

In Jerusalem, a senior official in the Prime Minister's Office said Albright's visit is "much more important than people think."

If 90 percent of the gaps are not bridged within this time, said the official, "there is really no point in holding the [Washington] summit."

PA: We foiled Hamas attack, Page 4

agreement is said to be imminent.

Erekat said yesterday that the US is trying to obtain a pledge from Israel to ease settlement activity in exchange for assurances from the Palestinians that they will not encourage illegal construction.

The Palestinian cabinet said it would call on its negotiators to work with all their ability to reach an accord during Albright's visit.


The PA is asking the Israeli

See ALBRIGHT, Page 15

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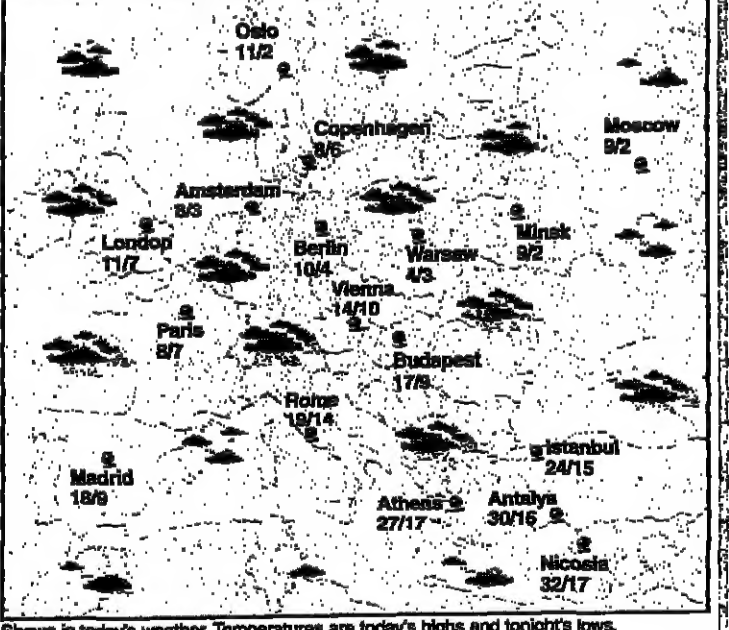
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EGYPT
Elkhat 36/20

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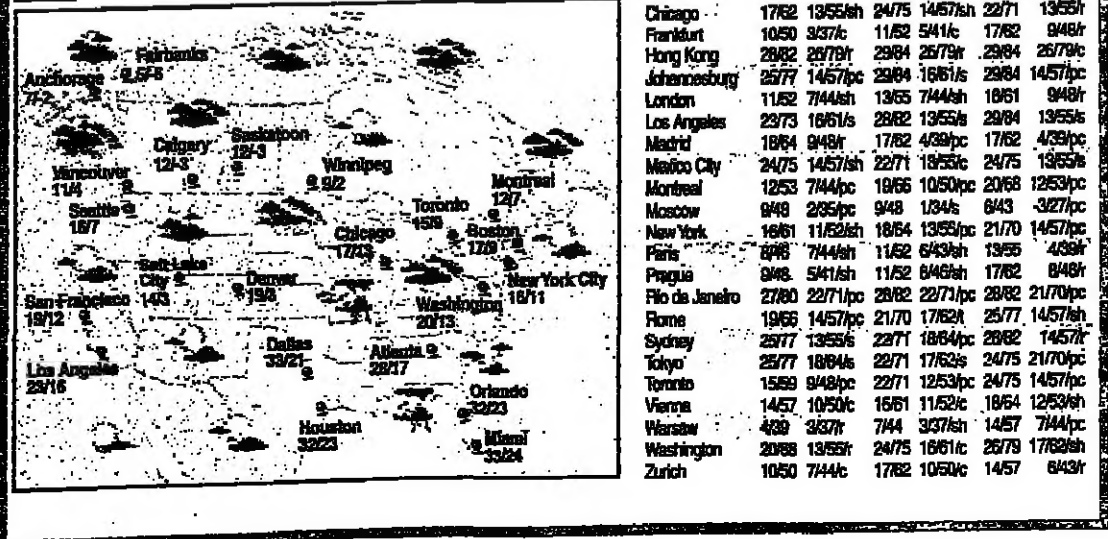
ISRAEL CITIES

City	Today High/Low	Monday High/Low	Tuesday High/Low	Wednesday High/Low
Ariel	30/19	30/19	30/19	30/19
Be'er Sheva	31/18	31/18	31/18	31/18
Dead Sea	30/19	30/19	30/19	30/19
Eilat	30/19	30/19	30/19	30/19
Haifa	20/14	20/14	20/14	20/14
Jerusalem	20/14	20/14	20/14	20/14
Katmon	30/19	30/19	30/19	30/19
Netanya	30/19	30/19	30/19	30/19
Tel Aviv	30/19	30/19	30/19	30/19
Tiberias	30/19	30/19	30/19	30/19

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

City	Today High/Low	Monday High/Low	Tuesday High/Low	Wednesday High/Low
Amsterdam	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Beijing	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Berlin	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Buenos Aires	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Chicago	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Frankfurt	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Hong Kong	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Johannesburg	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
London	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Los Angeles	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Madrid	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Mexico City	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Montreal	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Moscow	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
New York	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Paris	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Peking	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Rio de Janeiro	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Rome	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Sydney	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Tokyo	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Toronto	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Vancouver	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Washington	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Zurich	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5

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NEWS

in brief

Boy with cerebral palsy celebrates bar mitzva

Thirteen-year-old Moti Ariano of Upper Nazareth celebrated his bar mitzva yesterday at a Kiryat Tivon Reform synagogue, after Orthodox rabbis told his family that disabled people are not required to be called to the Torah.

Ariano, who has difficulty reading because of his disability, memorized the blessings. Rabbi Meir Azari, chairman of the Reform Rabbinical Council, said of the ceremony, run by Ariano's mother and sister: "According to the Halacha, such children do not celebrate bnei mitzva, because they are not considered obligated to fulfill the mitzvot, but we believe that every person was created in God's image and is deserving to be in the presence of the Creator."

Police find weapons cache in Jebel Mukaber

A cache containing firebombs, tear gas canisters, stolen car parts, and walkie-talkies was found over the weekend by police in a hidden basement in a house in Jerusalem's Jebel Mukaber neighborhood.

Security forces arrived at 6 a.m. at the house of the Awisat family in response to a feud between clans. They entered the house to check for illegal weapons and found a door leading to the basement after moving a carpet in the living room.

The father of the family, Musa, and his son Adel, were arrested. Another son, a minor, was questioned and then released. *Itm*

Actor Roddy McDowall dies at 70

Roddy McDowall, the child actor who left Britain during the London blitz to become a film star in *How Green Was My Valley* and *Lassie Come Home* and as an adult proved a versatile performer in films, theater and television, has died. He was 70.

McDowall died yesterday morning at his Studio City home, said Dennis Osborne, a friend who said he had cared for the actor in his final months.

"It was very peaceful," Osborne. "It was just as he wanted it. It was exactly the way he planned." McDowall was diagnosed with cancer in April, Osborne said. *AP*

Latvia holds referendum over stateless Russians

Latvians were narrowly approving their parliament's controversial moves to make citizenship easier for the country's hundreds of thousands of stateless Russians, early results from a referendum held yesterday showed.

With votes in from about 5 percent of the country's precincts, the changes were being approved by a 52-45% margin. If the referendum is approved, Latvia heads off an unpleasant confrontation with the West.

Although the changes remove years of waiting for citizenship applicants, adults will still have to be competent in Latvian, which many from all-Russian communities within Latvia call unreasonable. *AP*

Brazil's president expected to win re-election

With recession and record unemployment looming, President Fernando Henrique Cardoso wants another chance to fix Brazil's battered economy.

And some 106 million voters seem overwhelmingly inclined to give him another four-year term as they head to the polls today in national elections. They also will pick 27 governors, all 513 federal deputies, one-third of the 81-seat Senate and 1,045 state legislators.

For weeks, all major polls show Cardoso, a 67-year-old sociologist, has enough votes to win re-election on the first ballot. Voters are clinging to the hope that Cardoso can revive the magic of the Plano Real, an anti-inflation program so successful it propelled him to the presidency on the first ballot in 1994. *AP*

TURKEY

Continued from Page 1

Officials from both the Defense and Foreign ministries stressed yesterday that Israel has nothing to do with the dispute between Syria and Turkey.

Meanwhile, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak made plans to visit Syria and Turkey to help ease the tensions. Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa said yesterday.

Mubarak "will head within the next few hours to Syria and Turkey to hold discussions," Moussa said in Riyadh, where Mubarak met with Saudi King Fahd.

Mubarak also telephoned the leaders of Syria and Turkey after sending a message to Turkish President Suleyman Demirel with Ankara's ambassador to Cairo, Moussa said.

"There is a real problem between Turkey and Syria, but this problem must be dealt with through a diplomatic and political framework," Moussa earlier told reporters at a Cairo seminar on the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

"The Middle East cannot handle any more disputes... Egypt will do all it can to contain this situation as Turkey, before anything else, is a Middle Eastern country and Syria is brotherly nation," he added.

Already tense Turkish-Syrian relations have worsened in recent weeks over Ankara's growing military ties with Israel.

Syria and Turkey, which share an 877-km border, are also at odds over water-sharing and Syria's alleged aid to Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) rebels seeking self-rule in Turkey's southeast.

Turkish Defense Minister Ismet Sezgin on Friday ruled out military action against Syria, saying disputes could be solved diplomatically. But Turkish Chief of Staff General Huseyin Kivrioglu was quoted as saying: "There is a state of undeclared war between us and Syria."

Official media in Syria denied that Damascus supported Kurdish rebels and called for talks to end the dispute. It also declared that Damascus was "able to defend itself" and was closely following increasingly bellicose comments from Ankara.

Yilmaz said the army maneuver would take place after the completion of current NATO exercises on Turkish territory near the Syrian border. He did not give more details.

Turkey has never conducted war games along the Syrian border. In a show of force, Turkish jets buzzed along the Syrian border on Friday, daily Radikal reported yesterday. The Hurriyet newspaper said the Turkish units also sealed the escape routes of the rebels along the Syrian-Iraqi border inside northern Iraq.

Sezgin said Turkey is still trying to use diplomatic means to solve the problem. "But there is a limit of patience," NTV quoted him as saying. "Then we will do whatever necessary."

In London, Western sources said they do not believe the escalating rhetoric by Ankara indicates an imminent military response; but, they add, Turkey might be preparing public opinion for such an action in the longer term.

Meanwhile, some 10,000 Turkish soldiers crossed into northern Iraq on Friday to attack Turkish Kurdish rebels.

The move followed two days of bombings by Turkish jets of suspected rebel bases in areas which extend all along the Iraqi-Turkish border until Iran.

Turkey often crosses into Iraq to wipe out rebel forces in the area, which have been enjoying a free-for-all because of an internal power conflict between two Iraqi Kurdish factions.

The current cross-border offensive is apparently aimed at dealing the rebels a heavy blow before winter sets in and movement becomes difficult.

Douglas Davis contributed to this report.

Government report:
PA intensifying
bid to control
churches

By STEVE RODAN

The Palestinian Authority has intensified its effort to control Christian churches in Israel as part of its campaign to acquire their extensive landholdings in the country and gain influence in the West, a government report says.

The report, drafted by security officials for Cabinet review, says the PA effort began with its takeover of churches in Bethlehem, including the Church of Nativity, and has now extended to churches and Christian sites in Jerusalem. These include the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the Church of Mary Magdalene.

The PA effort is focused on gaining control over the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate in Jerusalem and the Greek Catholic Bishopric in the Galilee.

The drive to dominate the Greek Patriarchate is regarded as most alarming because of the church's vast holdings in the western part of Jerusalem, including land on which the Knesset and many government buildings are located. The Greek Catholics control considerable property in the north of Israel.

"The PA's efforts to take control over the patriarchate consist of a three-pronged approach encompassing the public, legal and political spheres," the report said.

The PA campaign is being waged by the newly-formed Orthodox Congress, composed of associations that administer the community's churches, cemeteries, cultural and educational institutions. It is headed by Kamal Ferah of Nazareth.

The report says the Congress is working to create a union of Orthodox Palestinian Christians with two leading PA figures, Marwan Barghout, West Bank Fatah leader, and Ramzi Khouri, personal secretary to PA chairman Yasser Arafat.

Over the past four months, the report says, the Congress has demonstrated against the Patriarchate in Ramallah and Amman, with its leaders accusing church leaders of selling property to Israelis. The Congress is also demanding the establishment of a public council to oversee Patriarchate properties and assets.

"The Greek priests who run the Patriarchate have been subjected to threats," the report says. "There are reports of plans by the Congress to break in and seize documents and deeds of ownership."

CORRECTION

The hospitalized soldier shown in a photograph in Friday's paper was Shai Azulai, 20, of Netanya, and not as stated.

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Jerusalem posters slam Albright visit

A soldier stands next to a wall in Jerusalem yesterday covered with posters protesting the upcoming visit of US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and special envoy Dennis Ross. (Brian Hendler)

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סניף מרכזי

German MDs apologize for not defending colleagues from Nazis

DRESDEN, Germany (AP) — A pediatrics organization expressed regret yesterday for not having defended hundreds of colleagues persecuted, expelled or murdered by the Nazis from 1933-45.

The president of the German Society for Pediatrics, Lothar Pelz, acknowledged that the majority of pediatricians of the era accepted the Nazis' principle of "Aryanization," expropriating Jewish businesses and other assets.

Most of that generation of doctors "did not resist as more than 700 Jewish or politically unacceptable colleagues saw their existence destroyed," Pelz said. Later generations, he said, kept silent.

Speaking at a gathering honoring colleagues persecuted by the Nazis, Pelz said it was time to "publicly acknowledge and to express regret." The shame "of those events has not been eased," he said, adding that he hoped that recalling "the fate of our politically persecuted, expelled and murdered colleagues" would awaken the consciousness of future generations.

The German Society for Pediatrics did not officially adopt Aryanization as a policy, according to historians researching the society's Nazi-era policies. However, researchers said the society used "internal tactics" to expel non-Aryan doctors.

Pope beatifies controversial prelate

WWII-era cardinal accused of abetting Nazis

By PHILIP PULLELLA

MARIJA BISTRICA, Croatia (Reuters) — Pope John Paul beatified World War II-era Cardinal Alojzije Stepinac yesterday in a controversial tribute to a man hailed as a saint by Croats, but condemned as a Nazi collaborator by communists.

The pope, praising Stepinac as a martyr who put up "the good fight" against Croatia's oppressors, put the late Zagreb archbishop on the road to sainthood despite Jewish accusations that he was soft on fascism and Nazism.

Ten days ago, the Nazi-hunting Simon Wiesenthal Center appealed to the pope to postpone the beatification "until after the completion of an exhaustive study of Stepinac's wartime record." The Vatican did not reply publicly to the request.

John Paul, 78, brushed aside accusations that Stepinac may actually have been a collaborator and made him a "blessed" of the Roman Catholic Church at a beatification ceremony at a shrine near Zagreb before some 350,000 people.

The pope appeared to be in relatively good form as he presided at the beatification in this region of gently rolling farmland dotted by corn fields and pumpkin patches — an area similar to his native Poland.



Pope John Paul II listens to Croatian President Franjo Tudjman welcome him to Zagreb's presidential palace on Friday. (Reuters)

The beatification, the penultimate step before eventual sainthood, was the focus of the pope's weekend visit to Croatia.

The site of the ceremony, the shrine town of Marija Bistrica, underscored the national significance of the beatification.

The newly beatified sums up, so to speak, the whole tragedy which befell the Croatian people and Europe in the course of this century marked by the three great evils of fascism, national socialism, and communism," the pope said in his sermon, read from a brick altar platform to a crowd hugging a hillside.

Cheers and applause rose up as a six-meter-high portrait of Stepinac, who was jailed by communist rulers in 1946 and died under house arrest in 1960, was unveiled as the pope read the religious formula that gave him the title blessed.

"He (Stepinac) is now in the joy of heaven, surrounded by all those who, like him, fought the good fight, purifying their faith in the crucible of suffering. Today we look with trust and invoke his intercession," said the pope, wearing resplendent red and white vestments.

Stepinac's beatification has rekindled a long-simmering dispute about his precise role during the regime of the Nazi-backed Ustashe regime in Croatia in 1941-45. Detractors describe him as a weak man who failed to stop Ustashe crimes, such as the deportation of Jews and forced conversion of Serbs. But supporters say he was a saintly figure who denounced rampant nationalism and did intercede to save some Serbs, Jews, and other victims of Ustashe persecution.

Tourism D-G prepares for 2000

Tourism Ministry Director-General Shabtai Shai met last week with leaders of several

churches to discuss cooperation to prepare for the events in Israel marking the year 2000.

The meeting came as the Palestinian Authority, with foreign assistance, continued its preparation of large-scale celebrations in the Bethlehem area known as Bethlehem 2000. The PA hopes that large numbers of tourists will stay in local hotels during the festivities.

The ministry's spokesman said in a statement that during the meeting, Shai surveyed the preparations for the year 2000 in terms of infrastructure, marketing and events.

Shai stressed the importance of cooperation in preparing the holy places in Nazareth for the flow of pilgrims, the statement said.

It added that leaders of churches said they are planning, among other events, a large gathering of heads of the Greek Orthodox Church that will be held during Christmas 2000, and a pilgrimage by tens and thousands of Catholic youths from around the world, who will arrive here in August 2000.

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Cyclist dies in Ramat Gan

An unidentified bicyclist was killed yesterday afternoon on Rehov Abba Hillel in Ramat Gan. Police said that the bicyclist, apparently a foreign worker from Romania, fell and seriously injured his head. An ambulance took him to Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv, where he was declared dead.

Itim

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PA reports foiling Hamas attack

By STEVE RODAN,
MOHAMMED NAJIB,
and MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

The Palestinian Police last week captured two Hamas terrorists heading toward Israel with explosives, Palestinian security sources said yesterday.

The sources said the two Hamas members were found near the wire fence of the Erez crossing with 35 kg. of explosives. One of the arrested men said they were attempting to cross into Israel and carry out a bombing. A third member of the Hamas squad escaped.

A Hamas source confirmed the arrests, but could not say why the men were detained by the PA.

PA sources said other Hamas members were arrested in connection with the attempted bombing.

On Friday, an IDF unit captured a senior Hamas activist in the village of Dura, near Hebron. They arrested the man, said to be the senior Hamas official of the district, as he left a mosque following afternoon prayers.

The arrests were disclosed as the PA released Islamic Jihad leader Abdullah Shami, who had been in detention for 40 days after publishing an article in the movement's weekly *Al Istiqlal* criticizing the PA cabinet reshuffle.

Shami told the Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group he was released after he signed a pledge not to harm the PA.

In Hebron, Palestinians clashed with IDF troops just after the curfew on the Israeli-controlled portion of the city was lifted.

Palestinian sources said two Arab residents were injured when Palestinians hurled stones at Jewish homes and IDF troops responded by firing rubber bullets.

Yesterday's clashes marked the fourth day of violence in Hebron. On Friday, seven Palestinians were reported injured, one seriously, in clashes with soldiers.

In other developments, the PA released on Friday four Israeli citizens arrested the previous day for their suspected involvement in the killing of Hamas member Zahran Zahran in a car explosion in Ramallah. The four men, residents of Taibeh, were released into the custody of Taibeh Mayor Rafiq Haj Yihyeh, who had appealed to Arafat for their release.

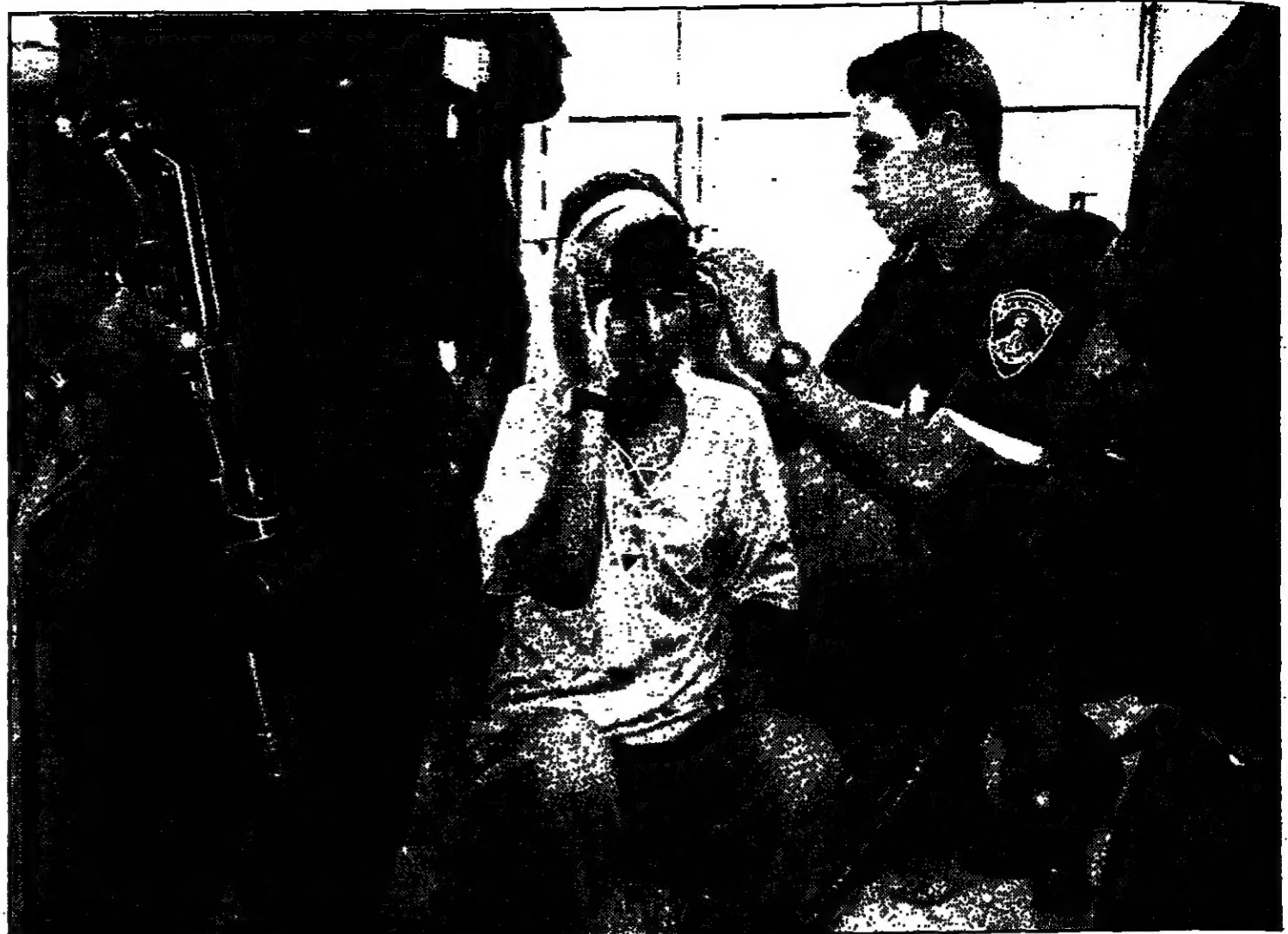
Earlier, Haj Yihyeh had been rebuffed in his efforts to win

release of the Taibeh men by PA Preventive Security Service chief Col. Jibril Rajoub.

The Hebron Jewish Community has called on the public to visit the city during Succot and show support, despite the continued unrest. The community expects thousands of visitors to pray at the Machpelah Cave, which will be open to the Jewish public on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Community leaders are still awaiting the outcome of their meeting last Thursday with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, when they told him the Oslo Accords had proven to be a total failure. They called on Netanyahu to halt negotiations with the Palestinians and told him he was jeopardizing the lives of the Jewish community.

Meanwhile, MK Tzvi Hendel (NRP) said he was temporarily suspending himself from the government coalition to protest Netanyahu's continued negotiations with PA Chairman Yasser Arafat. He said no negotiations or additional withdrawals should take place as long as terrorism emanates from the autonomous areas.



A border policeman treats an injured Palestinian, Hussein Ashour, who was shot with a rubber bullet by a soldier and arrested after allegedly throwing stones at troops in Hebron on Friday. (Reuters)

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Indians replacing Norwegians in UNIFIL

By DAVID RUDGE

A contingent of the Indian Army is for the first time to take part in a UN peacekeeping mission in Lebanon.

Some 600 Indian Army soldiers are to replace a similar number of troops from UNIFIL's Norwegian battalion, which has been part of the force since its inception after the Litani Operation in 1978.

The Norwegian government announced earlier this year that it would be pulling its troops out of UNIFIL, apparently due to difficulties in recruiting troops willing

to serve there.

"The area of operations that until now has been supervised by the Norwegian battalion and which the Indian battalion will be taking over is one of the most complex in UNIFIL," said UNIFIL spokesman Timur Goksel, who is also the force's senior political adviser.

"It is one of the most sensitive areas, because it is in the Israeli-controlled region (the security zone), but there is no IDF or South Lebanese Army presence within the Norwegian battalion area itself, and we want to keep it that way."

"The handover, therefore, from the experienced Norwegian troops to the new Indian Army battalion is being planned very meticulously and we intend that there will be an overlap before all the Norwegian troops pull out," he said.

The Indian Army might be new to UNIFIL, but not to UN peacekeeping missions in general and the Middle East in particular.

Indian army troops served in the UN mission to Somalia and also in the UN's Emergency Force in Sinai prior to the 1967 Six Day War, and earned a reputation for being good

soldiers and peacekeepers.

An advance party of six Indian Army officers is to arrive at UNIFIL headquarters in Nakoura tomorrow. After a few days of briefings, they are to spend a week in the Norwegian battalion's area of operations in the heart of the eastern sector of the security zone.

The Norwegian contingent was one of the founders of UNIFIL and for several years was responsible for running the force's hospital, its helicopter wing, and technical maintenance, as well as having troops on the ground.

Senior Lebanese government

officials tried to persuade the Norwegian government to reconsider its decision to pull out of UNIFIL, but to no avail.

"The pullout of such an experienced battalion is a loss to UNIFIL, but the Indians have an excellent reputation and we are certain they will be able to perform their tasks equally as well as their predecessors," said Goksel.

The Indian Army contingent will join with those from eight other countries serving with UNIFIL, which has a total of 4,500 military personnel in south Lebanon.

A-G: State still gathering evidence against Raviv

By BAT-SHEVA TSUR and Rim

The state prosecution has not been remiss and is not evading taking action against General Security Service agent Avishai Raviv, but further evidence is required before a decision is made whether to press charges against him, Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein said in a sharply worded statement Friday.

Rubinstein was responding to a call by Deputy Minister Michael Eitan for a state commission of inquiry into Raviv's actions prior to the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.

In a letter to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Eitan also demanded that such a commission examine whether the state attorney had been remiss about charging Raviv and had hidden facts from the Shamgar Commission, which investigated the assassination.

Eitan said he has a great deal of material indicating that the main motive for not pressing charges against Raviv was not considerations of state security, but rather an attempt to cover up for the mistakes of those who had employed Raviv.

He implied that both State Attorney Edna Arbel and GSS head Ami Ayalon had "white-washed" the affair in their reports to the cabinet.

"A policy of allowing secret-service agents to disregard the law and regulations, in the knowledge that they will never be brought to trial, does not strengthen the GSS but rather weakens it," Eitan wrote to Netanyahu. "We are broadcasting a message of lack of law and order to the public."

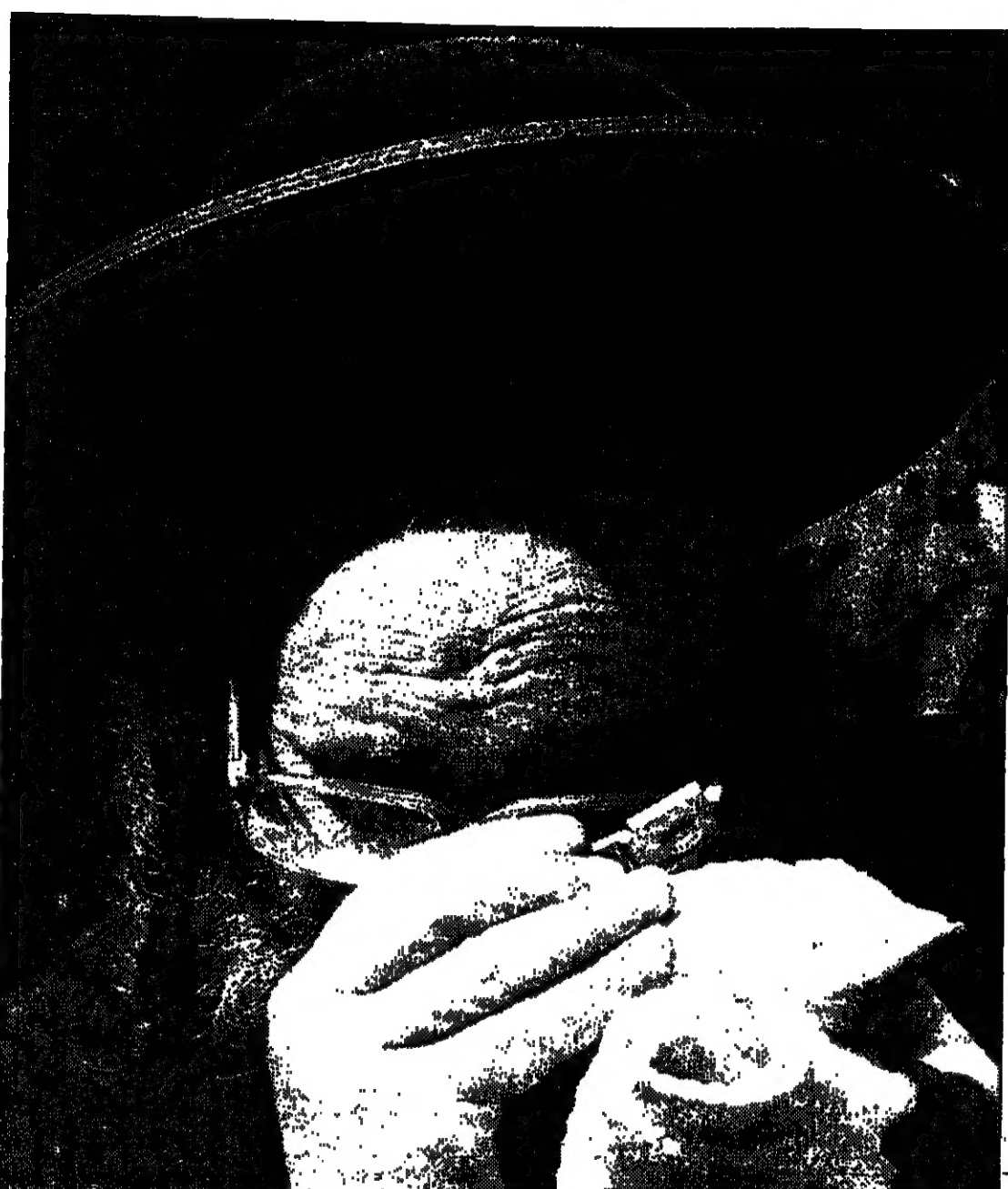
Rubinstein responded that the State Attorney's Office is still involved in its investigation. "The only consideration about whether to press charges is one of evidence. To close the case would have been easy a year ago," he said, "but further time is required to gather evidence" and see whether to press charges.

"We are aware what a weighty matter is in our hands. There is no body at present that is pushing to have the case closed," Rubinstein said, apparently referring to reports that the GSS had attempted to keep the role of Raviv under wraps.

"The only question is one of sufficient evidence. In the end, the public will know - whether or not we bring [Raviv] to trial - what the evidence was and why [the specific decision was taken]," he promised, noting that "this is an extremely complicated case."

The Prime Minister's Office last night released a statement urging that no one cast aspersions on the GSS and the state prosecution.

"The attorney-general must be allowed to carry out his functions and to take decisions in an appropriate fashion," Netanyahu's spokesman said.



A Jerusalem resident examines a citron in Jerusalem's Mahaneh Yehuda market on Friday in preparation for Succot. (Brian Hendler)

SUCCOT

Continued from Page 1

Hillel Glassman, who heads the union of the former NPA workers, accused the Finance Ministry of trying to create three separate bodies within the new authority: those who used to work for the NPA; those who worked for the NRA (for up to 25 percent lower pay); and those newly employed by the NPNPA.

He also warned against the stated intention of Environment Ministry Director-General Nehama Ronen to bring in outside workers and volunteers to keep the nature reserves and

national parks open over the holiday period. Vardi also said he would not allow outsiders to operate the sites.

Goldman said he would make every effort to keep the nature reserves and national parks open and noted that a strike would particularly harm the religious public, who use the opportunity of the intermediate days of holidays to travel to places they cannot visit on Shabbat.

Even if the strike goes ahead, hikers are expected to take to those nature reserves, parks, and Jewish National Fund forests where entrance is free. Conservationists are asking they abide by basic safety regulations, including sticking to

paths, being properly equipped with sufficient water and walking shoes, not lighting fires and being careful with cigarettes, and not entering desert wadis when there are warnings of flash floods.

Details of activities and information for hikers should be available (in Hebrew only) on the Green Line recorded telephone service at 1-800-546666 and on the Internet at: www.internet-zahav.net/tyul.

Information booths will also operate at major intersections throughout the country.

If the strike is averted, the NPNPA should also continue with its joint service run in cooperation with Israel Radio's Traffic Center at 1-800-234567.

MKs to debate unlinking wages from average

By LIAT COLLINS

The Knesset plans to discuss cutting the linkage between MKs' salaries and the average wage at the start of the winter sitting later this month. Speaker Dan Tichon said.

The issue was discussed at a meeting Thursday between Tichon and Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman.

Some 3,000 ministers, MKs, and other senior public officials such as judges are scheduled to have their salaries automatically raised by 5.4 percent at the start of November, under a system which links their salaries to the average wage.

Most salaried employees have their wages linked to the cost-of-living index. Both the prime minister and the finance minister have asked Tichon several times to stop the linkage to the average wage.

Neeman said yesterday that "a twisted situation" had been created in which the senior public workers are the main people to benefit from growing unemployment, since the rise in joblessness is accompanied by a rise in the average wage.

He called the decision to break the linkage one of "utmost importance." It is estimated that stopping the linkage with the average wage for senior public officials would save some NIS 40 million in the annual budget.

Tichon and MK Raphael Pinhasi (Shas), who heads the Knesset House Committee that must approve the legislation, both approve of the idea. But it faces some opposition from MKs who feel that their earning power has been eroded by a ban on legislators earning money from non-parliamentary sources.

The suggestion, including a proposal that an independent external body determine MKs' wages and pensions, rather than the parliamentarians themselves, has been raised several times. But it has not gathered the necessary support in the House.

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NEWS

in brief

Activists to mark World Farm Animal Day

Animal welfare activists from the Anonymous group are planning two days of activities this week to mark World Farm Animal Day. Apart from a planned demonstration Tuesday outside the Poultry Board in Tel Aviv demanding improved conditions for battery hens, the group is also planning to screen on Wednesday night footage of kosher slaughtering practices. The film is scheduled to be shown, along with other material on the meat industry, at 8 p.m. at the London Garden near the Tel Aviv Promenade. *Liav Collins*

Six hurt in brawl at Acre mosque

Six people were hurt, one seriously, in a fight which broke out Friday between a family living in a mosque belonging to the Shazali sect in old Acre and worshippers there. It continued yesterday afternoon.

Police said the family had been living in the mosque for 50 years. Worshippers want them to leave, and have offered them money, with the dispute currently in the courts.

On Friday, a brawl broke out when the family allegedly started to annoy the worshippers. When it resumed yesterday afternoon, police were summoned, who managed to convince the worshippers to leave. *Itim*

Hadassah doctors head to Kazakhstan

A team of doctors from Hadassah-Hebrew University Hospital in Jerusalem left over the weekend for Kazakhstan to help treat dozens of babies suffering from lead poisoning.

The city of Chimkent, where 600,000 people reside, is believed to be one of the more dangerous places in the world for lead poisoning. It housed a very large plant to manufacture lead products, which was active for many years.

The project is run by Prof. Yosef Amiaai, an expert on poisoning at Haddassah-University Hospital, Mount Scopus, and Dr. Max Kaufman, a pediatrician and researcher who immigrated to Israel from Chimkent. *Itim*

UN health conference opens in Beirut

A UN health conference opened in Beirut yesterday to discuss problems of Eastern Mediterranean nations, including the paucity of locally produced vaccines and medicines in the region.

The four-day conference will also discuss emerging diseases, especially malaria, prevention and control of cardiovascular diseases and AIDS, and improving nursing and midwifery services.

As a member of the Western European region of the WHO, Israel was not invited to the conference. *AP*

Alleged 'enforcer' turns himself in

Roni Harari, accused of threatening violence to collect a debt from a Beersheba butcher, turned himself in to Tel Aviv police Friday afternoon.

Harari surrendered accompanied by his lawyer and was remanded for six days by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court.

He had been sought since Tuesday for alleged involvement in an attempt to collect a debt from a Beersheba butcher by threatening to wound or murder him if he did not turn over NIS 300,000. A loaded pistol and a silencer were found in the car driven by Harari's alleged partner, Yossi Hadad, who also turned himself in to police. *Itim*

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GOP investigator to expand grounds for Clinton impeachment

By news agencies

WASHINGTON — The chief Republican investigator for the House Judiciary Committee will expand the current list of 11 possible grounds for the impeachment of President Bill Clinton with new counts focusing on witness tampering, obstruction of justice, and making false statements under oath, an informed source said Friday.

During tomorrow's scheduled committee hearing, investigator David Schippers plans to name former White House intern Monica Lewinsky as a co-conspirator in efforts to obstruct justice, the source said. He will cite other co-conspirators without naming them.

While adding more counts to the list proposed by independent counsel Kenneth Starr, Schippers plans to drop one of Starr's 11 counts, the source said. He will omit references to a presidential claim of executive privilege cited by Starr as evidence of abuse of power.

Sources said the core of Schippers' presentation will be his discussion of "making false statements under oath," a term that describes deliberate intent to deceive in a legal proceeding but does not have the same gravity as perjury, a serious felony committed by a sworn witness.

Schippers' presentation will play down references to the graphic sexual details contained in Starr's report, the source said, although it will mention Clinton and Lewinsky's sexual encounters.

The presentation of Schippers, to be followed by that of chief Democratic investigator Abbe Lowell, will open tomorrow's hearing on whether to begin a formal inquiry of impeachment against Clinton for his alleged misdeeds in his involvement with Lewinsky.

After the two lawyers' presentations, the committee will open the debate on two competing resolutions — a Republican one recommending a formal impeachment inquiry and one introduced by committee Democrats Friday calling for an abbreviated process that would end before Thanksgiving.



House employees prepare to distribute 4,610-page copies of the final batch of documents from the Starr investigation in Washington on Friday.

The winning resolution will be put to a vote in the full House late next week.

Meanwhile, the secret tape recordings that triggered the sex scandal investigation of Clinton show that Lewinsky confidante Linda Tripp actively counseled the young woman on her relationship with the president and coached her on saving evidence and making job demands on Clinton.

Transcripts of the tape recordings of her telephone calls with Lewinsky were released Friday by the House Judiciary Committee. The 4,610 pages of investigative documents were the third and final

group to be made public.

The long-awaited release of the tapes does appear to boost Clinton's defense that his enemies — in this case Tripp — looked for opportunities to harm him and damage his presidency. After learning about the relationship from Lewinsky, Tripp — a disgruntled former White House employee — secretly taped the young woman's confidences and turned them over to Starr in January.

According to Tripp, Kathleen Willey, a former White House volunteer who has said publicly that Clinton fondled her in his study outside the Oval

Office, wore provocative clothing in an attempt to lure the president into a sexual relationship. "She should have kept her mouth shut because she was as guilty as he was," Tripp says in a recorded phone conversation.

Clinton told Lewinsky and Willey that they should always "deny, deny, deny" if asked about having a sexual relationship with the president, and his confidant, Vernon Jordan Jr., advised Lewinsky that "you will not go to jail for perjury in a civil suit," such as the Paula Jones sexual harassment lawsuit against the president. Friday afternoon, Gregory Craig,

the president's special counsel, read a statement of rebuttal to reporters gathered outside the White House.

"In its zeal to prop up its allegations against the president," he said, Starr's report to the House had purposely left out key evidence and "intentionally omitted direct exculpatory testimony, paraphrased unambiguous statements to obscure their plain meaning, and systematically resolved conflicting testimony in its favor." He specifically denied that anyone in the White House tried to get Lewinsky a new job in return for her silence.

Howard ekes out narrow victory in Australian election

Hanson fares worse than expected

Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies

SYDNEY (Reuters) — Australian Prime Minister John Howard clung to power yesterday by winning the seats that mattered despite a massive swing against the government that gave the Labor opposition most of the votes.

Meanwhile, right-wing leader Pauline Hanson's prediction early yesterday that she would lead up to 15 members of her anti-immigration One Nation party into Parliament with the cry: "I'm back" failed to come true by a long shot.

After most votes in the national election were counted, it was apparent Hanson — whose party's success in Queensland local elections had aroused concern in Australia's Jewish community — would not be leading any new members into the new legislature and was unlikely to be returning herself.

Hanson refused to concede defeat and vowed that One Nation would continue even without her in Parliament.

On victory night, Howard's main concern, as it was throughout the five-week campaign, was to claim a mandate for introducing an unpopular 10 percent tax on goods and services.

Howard, also criticized for failing to denounce Hanson's hostility to Asian immigration, celebrated her party's poor showing.

Far less ebullient than the Liberal Party faithful who gathered in the ballroom of Sydney's Wentworth Hotel to celebrate his re-election, Hanson used his victory speech to

address what was seen as one of the main weaknesses of his first term in office — strained relations with Australia's Aboriginal population.

"I also want to commit myself very genuinely to the cause of true reconciliation with the Aboriginal people," he said to cheers from the crowd.

"We may differ in debate about the best way of achieving reconciliation, but I think all Australians are united in a determination to achieve it," said Howard, who was joined on stage by wife Janette and their children Melanie, Tim and Richard.

The bespectacled 59-year-old lawyer said his Liberal-National coalition government would maintain traditional Australian values of mateship and egalitarianism.

"They also mean that great Australian value of tolerance and of treating people decently and not discriminating against people according to their race and ethnic background," he said.

Yesterday's vote is set to pare back the coalition's 44 seat majority to around six seats. On a two-party preferred basis, Labor was outpolling the government by 51.5 to 48.5%.

The evening celebrations at the Wentworth got off to a muted start, as early vote counting suggested Labor might have gained enough support for an historic and unexpected victory.

But as the evening progressed, it became clear that the coalition had successfully countered the opposition challenge in some of the 27 marginal seats Labor needed to win office.

Asian countries agree on steps for economies

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — Cash-strapped Asian countries agreed with Japan yesterday that they must take measures to stimulate their economies, and welcomed a \$30 billion aid offer by Tokyo.

Finance Ministers and central bank governors of embattled Asian nations met with Japanese officials in Washington before Japan's financial leaders were to meet with other members of the Group of Seven most industrialized nations later the same day.

"To overcome the current difficulties, while avoiding the risk of falling into a deflationary spiral, they agreed that it is imperative for the Asian countries to take stimulative measures to put their economy on the path of recovery and sustainable growth," the six countries and Japan said in a joint statement.

Meanwhile, US President Bill Clinton met his team of economic advisers yesterday to discuss their plans for confronting the global financial crisis.

A White House official said Clinton was being briefed by his advisers ahead of his meeting tomorrow with finance ministers and central bankers from 22 key countries who are here to debate new ways of fixing the ailing world economy.

Clinton on Friday announced what he said was a major new plan to help nations hit by global economic turmoil.

Warning the world financial system was facing its worst crisis in half a century, Clinton vowed Washington would work with its partners in the Group of Seven top economies (G7) and the International Monetary Fund to give cash-strapped nations easier and faster access to fresh capital in times of crisis.

In their statement, the officials from Indonesia, South Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand also said they welcomed a Japanese offer of \$30 billion in aid to help them rebuild economies battered by the financial crisis.

'Bobeh' the limit for Monica's mom

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — For Monica Lewinsky's mother, the last straw before she broke down in her grand jury testimony was a question about how to say "granny" in Yiddish.

The world saw an apparently distraught Marcia Lewis leaving the federal courthouse after two days of testimony last February, months before the former White House intern struck the sweeping mother-daughter immunity deal for her cooperation with independent counsel Kenneth Starr's sex-and-perjury investigation of President Bill Clinton.

The transcript released by Congress Friday did not show any crescendo of tension in those two days of testimony, just an abrupt break after an exchange about "bobeh," the Yiddish term

for granny.

One of the prosecutors asked Lewis if her daughter had ever referred to First Lady Hillary Clinton as "Bobeh." That led to a discussion of Yiddish expressions used by the Lewinsky family, until the testimony broke off with one of the prosecutors asking Lewis, "Are you all right?"

Lewis then emerged from the court, according to a witness, crying loudly and exclaiming, "I can't take it; I can't take any more; I can't stand it."

Lewis, who returned to testify in April, told the grand jury in her initial testimony that her daughter had never explicitly confessed a sexual relationship with the president but that she, as a mother, sometimes suspected it.

Singing cowboy Gene Autry, 91

By MICHAEL MILLER

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) — Gene Autry, the original singing cowboy who transformed a film and recording career into a vast business empire, died on Friday at his home after a long battle with cancer, associates said. He was 91.

Joanne Hale, co-curator of the Gene Autry Western Heritage Museum in Los Angeles, said Autry died of lymphoma, a form of cancer. He had been bedridden for a month before his death.

"He had a bout with lymphoma two or three years ago, but it went into remission. Then things started getting real bad about a month ago," she said.

Autry, the son of a Texas horse trader, began his career as

"Oklahoma's Yodeling Cowboy" in 1929 and went on to record some of America's most popular songs including "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" and "Back in the Saddle Again."

"Rudolph" recorded on a whim in 1949, has sold more than 30 million copies and is the second biggest selling Christmas song behind Bing Crosby's "White Christmas."

Autry also rode his horse, Champion, in about 90 movies and became one of the biggest box office draws in the 1930s and 1940s.

He was born Orvon Gene Autry in Tioga, Texas, on September 29, 1908. After a nomadic childhood, at the age of 17 he settled with his family in Oklahoma where he learned to ride and rope.

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Kohl honored at last German Unity Day as chancellor

By PAUL GEITNER

HANOVER, Germany (AP) — Germany honored its "unification chancellor" Helmut Kohl, yesterday for bringing the country together eight years ago, while noting that serious problems that resulted — like high unemployment — remain to be solved.

The nation's double-digit jobless rate, especially acute in the former communist east, was the main reason behind Kohl's election defeat last weekend. And chancellor-elect Gerhard Schröder did not shy away from the subject in his address at ceremonies to mark German Unification Day.

"Today is not a day on which something should be glossed over or talked away," he said as Kohl looked on impassively.

"Above all, (conquering) mass unemployment remains our main task."

But Schröder also used the opportunity to express his "respect" for Kohl's crowning achievement in 16 years as chancellor: reunifying Germany.

"I think this is a good moment to remind people about that," he said. "And I'm sure the people of Germany won't forget it."

His words brought sustained applause from the hundreds of invited guests.

"Kohl lost the election, but that doesn't change what he's done for Germany," one guest, Peter Imhoff, a state official in Hesse, said afterward.

Kohl sat in the front row during the official ceremony at the Hanover congress center, but did not speak.

In a statement issued earlier, he praised all that Germany had accomplished in bringing east and west together since 1990's unification.

"What we've attained with each other in the past eight years is unprecedented in history," he said.

Schröder, who led the Social Democrats' defeat of Kohl last week, played host to the national celebrations in his role as president of parliament's upper house.

Czech President Vaclav Havel,

the guest of honor, said German unification "was good for the whole world" because it meant the end of an "evil" system of communism.

But Schröder noted the economic and social upheaval that followed the demise of East Germany has given rise to another danger: growing support for neo-Nazi ideas, especially among disoriented youth.

Germany can be proud that no far-right party even came close to winning parliamentary seats in last week's election, he said.

"But that shouldn't lead us to lose sight of the causes" that lead young people above all to vote for such parties, he said.

"Radicalism always feeds itself on the fears and insecurities in times of dramatic change" — not just unification, but the tougher competition brought about by globalization.

Schröder, who was expected to be sworn in as chancellor at the end of the month, called for more attention to history and to more job and training opportunities for young people.

The ceremony was preceded by a political fight over an original musical work mixing portions of the German national anthem and the one used in communist East Germany.

Conservatives accused Schröder, whose state government commissioned the piece, of desecrating the national anthem and insulting the victims of East Germany's totalitarian regime.

Bavarian leaders boycotted the ceremony.

But even Kohl, who was among the critics, clapped politely when "Variations on the Theme Germany" was played. And German President Roman Herzog dismissed the fuss as overblown.

"Our state can endure that, and its symbols, when we value them enough," he said.

The people of former East Germany will be remembered not by their old anthem, he said, but by the chant heard during the candlelight marches that eventually brought down the communist leaders: "We are the people."

Serbs say they will 'normalize' Kosovo

By JEFFREY ULBRICH

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia (AP) — In the latest move by Serbian authorities to dodge NATO airstrikes, a Serb-appointed council meant to serve as an interim government in Kosovo announced yesterday that it will try to "normalize conditions" in the rebellious province.

The declaration, part of a last-ditch effort to show that the Serbs intend to end the conflict, came just two days before a report by UN chief Kofi Annan on whether Belgrade is complying with demands to halt its assault on ethnic Albanians. If not, Washington has indicated that NATO airstrikes will come within two weeks.

But like other moves in recent days — a mass pullback of troops and equipment in Kosovo as well as a series of diplomatic efforts — the latest drew skepticism. Ethnic Albanian political leaders have rejected the council as a "body formed by Serbian authorities," not one that would be part of Kosovo self-rule.

The 18-member council appointed by the Serbian parliament last week includes Serbs and ethnic Albanians. It is to address local issues in Kosovo, where Yugoslavia began a crackdown in February on independence-seeking ethnic Albanians.

"Our task is to normalize conditions as soon as possible and create conditions for local elections in Kosovo," Zoran Djindjic, who heads the council, said at its opening session yesterday. "I hope we will not last for a very long time, because that means we will be successful." Edita Tahiri, a top ethnic Albanian political leader, condemned the establishment of the council as "strengthening Serbian rule in Kosovo." "The act ... is a serious impediment for any success in a negotiating process," she said.

The Serbian efforts to eliminate the separatist Kosovo



An armed Albanian villager leaves a destroyed house in Sibovac, near Pristina, Kosovo yesterday. The village was attacked and burned by Serb police and army forces last week, and the villagers are just starting to return to take stock of the damage. (AP)

Liberation Army in the Serbian province, which is 90 percent ethnic Albanian, has killed hundreds of people and driven an estimated 275,000 from their homes. Momentum for international leaders to step in has increased in the past week amid revelations of massacres of ethnic Albanian civilians in the forests of Kosovo.

After a session of the Yugoslav government in Belgrade on Friday, officials issued a statement saying the fighting had ended and blaming continuing violence on

ethnic Albanian rebels.

But while the province was reported mostly quiet, there are continuing scattered reports of gunfire exchanges between Serb forces and ethnic Albanian militants. The Serbs' Media Center reported yesterday that a Yugoslav army vehicle came under attack some 20 kilometers southwest of Pristina late Friday.

No one was injured.

Ethnic Albanian political leaders have rebuffed a Serb offer to hold talks, saying Friday that they won't sit down until NATO inter-

venes. Low-level talks, which the Serbs say could lead to restoration of some of the autonomy they took away from Kosovo in 1989, broke off in May.

The Serbs also invited Annan to visit Kosovo, removed a key police roadblock and showed reporters heavy equipment they said had been withdrawn.

Showing the West is unconvinced, German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel said in Copenhagen, Denmark, yesterday that "the clock is at one minute to 12" regarding NATO intervention.

Kinkel stressed that "no ultimatum, no date has been set," but added: "Mr. Milosevic must know that we are serious." Greece, meanwhile, added its voice to those against airstrikes. Foreign Minister Theodoros Pangalos said Western powers have blown the Kosovo crisis out of proportion, and predicted that the price of any NATO strikes on Serbia will be paid by neighboring countries in the Balkans.

Russia, a staunch Serb ally, also adamantly opposes military intervention.

Lock of Louis XVI's hair fetches over \$5,000

GRENOBLE, France (Reuters) — A lock of Louis XVI's hair, cut from the French king's head just after his execution in 1793, was sold at auction yesterday for 31,000 French francs (\$5,636), the auction house said.

An anonymous royalist bought

the hair after a brisk but shortlived round of bidding.

A spokeswoman at the sales house in this southeastern French city said the lock was originally picked up by a drummer present when Louis XVI was guillotined in central Paris in the aftermath of

the French revolution.

He gave it to his mother, an avowed Royalist, and it remained in the family for almost 100 years before being given to a family in Grenoble in 1880. Descendants decided to sell it yesterday for financial reasons.

Taliban warns of 'devastating' war

KABUL (AP) — Warning of a "devastating" war with neighboring Iran, the Taliban religious army yesterday wrote a letter to the United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan seeking his intervention.

"The foreign ministry requests your excellency once again to use your influence and authority for the amicable solution of the differences (with Iran)," the letter said.

Without this solution, the letter warned "the entire region will become engulfed by a devastating war." The Taliban army's foreign ministry said the letter follows the incursion of Iranian fighter jets and helicopters into Afghan air space on Friday.

The Iranian Embassy in neighboring Pakistan denied the Taliban charges calling the allegations "false and baseless." The Taliban also threatened to retaliate if further incursions occur, said its foreign ministry in Kabul.

Iran has amassed 270,000 soldiers on its western border with Afghanistan and has been conducting massive military maneuvers in the region, rolling hundreds of tanks toward the border with Afghanistan and bombing mock targets nearby.

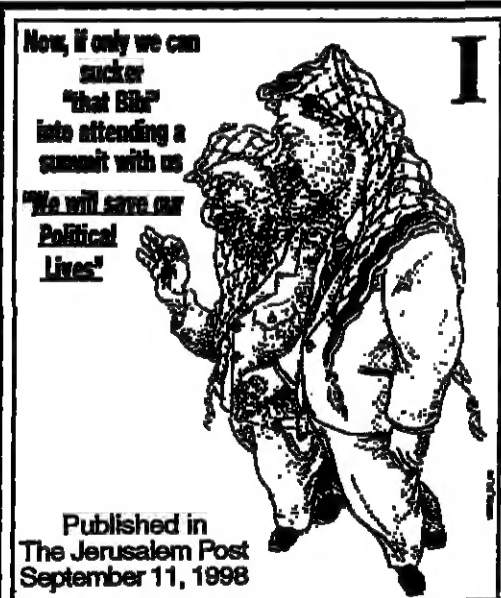
The massive deployment of Iranian soldiers was Tehran's response to the killing in August of eight Iranian diplomats and an Iranian journalist in Afghanistan's northern Mazar-e-Sharif.

The Iranians were killed by invading Taliban soldiers.

The Taliban also arrested about 60 Iranian nationals and transferred them to jails in southern Kandahar province. Ten of the 60 have been released.

Iran has demanded an apology from the Taliban, as well as the release of the Iranian captives and the arrest and deportation of the men who murdered its diplomats.

The Taliban has refused all the requests and called the slain diplomats "conspirators." The Taliban has accused Iran of supporting its northern-based opponents with money and weapons. The opposition, a collection of small groups representing the country's minority ethnic and religious groups also includes among them Afghanistan's minority Shi'ite Muslims.



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Stop Milosevic now

Almost four months ago, "Balkan brinkmanship" was the theme of reports from Kosovo after British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook, then president of the EU foreign ministers' council, warned the Serbs that they had been given their last chance to stop indiscriminate military operations against Albanian separatists in Kosovo.

"I hope Milosevic is listening," Cook said on June 8. "This is the last warning." Cook is no longer the EU foreign affairs spokesman and the brutal forces of Serb leader Slobodan Milosevic are still rampaging through Kosovo, raping, looting, murdering, and destroying villages in their now familiar ethnic-cleansing operations. After four months of "last warnings" from ineffectual Western leaders, Milosevic is likely to take the two-week warning just issued by NATO with a large grain of salt.

The fact that NATO did eventually and effectively act in Bosnia probably means it will act eventually in Kosovo. The only question is, what is taking it so long? Kosovans are dying and being brutalized daily, their homes are being destroyed. In June the European Union put pressure on the Serbs to end the violence in Kosovo, imposing a ban on all investment to the country. It backed off recommending immediate military intervention in the province. Cook brushed aside claims that the ban would have little effect on Serbia - a claim since proved to be both as logical and accurate as Cook was wrong.

The policies of Milosevic are based on a defiant use of force, and force is the only response he understands. That is why NATO should be in action already, not giving the Serbs another opportunity to continue their massacres. It took the massacre of Srebrenica in Bosnia to

bring the world to its senses and send in NATO warplanes to destroy the Bosnian Serbs' military machine. Ethnic Albanians in Kosovo fear it will take even worse massacres than those already reported this week to again wake the international community up to the fact that words or threats will never stop Milosevic.

At the time of the first "last warning" in June, Milosevic made it clear he would not order an end to operations by Serb army and police units. He gambled successfully that the international response would remain too flimsy to bother him, and that the same problems that led to diplomatic paralysis over Bosnia would again operate in his favor. Sure enough, Russia and China are being just as uncooperative as before and Milosevic has continued to pursue his own objectives single-mindedly, if not very cleverly.

For nationalist Serbs, Kosovo is like Jerusalem, so holy in their mythology that possession of it is vital to their survival. Kosovo was part of the original Serb heartland and it was there that the Serbs' greatest hero, Prince Lazar, was defeated by the Ottoman Turks at the Field of Blackbirds in 1389.

When Milosevic decided to withdraw Kosovo province's historic autonomy for its 90 percent ethnic Albanian community, he did so in 1989, on the 600th anniversary of the Serb defeat there. In this Balkan region where memories are as long as swords are sharp, the Serbs actually are taking revenge on the Moslem Albanians for what happened six centuries ago.

For this reason, it is pointless for NATO to hesitate any longer. The fundamentalist nationalist hatred of Milosevic for Moslems simply will not go away. His ravages must be stopped by deadly force, and they must be stopped now and finally.

Australia's racists vanish

Australia's sensible voters are to be congratulated, not for their normal democratic process of choosing the government they want, but for destroying the arrogant and racist One Nation party in the process.

The bandwagon of the party's leader, Pauline Hanson, has vanished down an electoral black hole. There will be few signs of regret at home or abroad. Particularly gratifying was Hanson's loss of her own seat to a Liberal in her home state of Queensland, and the failure of her deputy leader and close adviser, David Oldfield, in his bid for a Senate seat in New South Wales. In a typically petulant response to the string of failures across Australia, Hanson ejected media cameras and reporters from her party's headquarters as the gloom spread. Earlier in the day as voting progressed, Hanson had foolishly predicted a decisive showing for her party across the nation. She then refused to concede defeat and vowed that One Nation would continue even without her in Parliament. But Australians have decided they can do without the nasty little image One Nation beamed from their coun-

try for a mercifully brief period.

While there is concern in Australia about immigration, just as there is in many Western countries, few voters want it discussed in the racist terms Hanson injected into the debate. Her semantic contortions to avoid crediting Aborigines with being the first "real" Australians revealed the transparency of the party's argument that the issue was immigration, not race.

Fourteen weeks ago, One Nation captured 11 seats in the Queensland state parliament. By election night yesterday, they were struggling to get even one seat in the House of Representatives. It is clear in retrospect that the original explosion of votes for Hanson was no more than an angry protest vote of frustration against controversial government tax policies.

Now that the voters have had the chance to express their views in a serious nationwide poll, they returned the Conservative government with a reduced majority. In the Hanson case they have chosen, wisely and well, to place One Nation in democracy's trash can.

O, Jerusalem

DANIEL BLOCH

It is a debatable issue whether municipal elections should be run according to party lines, where the candidates belong to the mainstream national parties, or whether they should be concentrated solely on local issues with local lists.

One could argue forcefully for both sides: You can say there is no connection between the local issues of urban planning, social services, education and garbage collection and the major issues of security, peace, national economic

and the new direct election system. Israel seems to forget that democracy cannot survive without several strong national parties.

IF IN MOST cities we can debate the merits of the party background of a mayoral candidate, no one can challenge the notion that the elections in Jerusalem are first and foremost ideological and political. The actions of the mayor of Jerusalem affect the future of Israel more than those of most ministers

Olmert can laugh all the way to election day

and social policies. On the other hand, you can easily claim that the ideological beliefs of a local candidate for mayor, especially on socio-political issues, are important factors in judging his ability to run the city.

In most Western democracies the municipal candidates are usually affiliated with the major national parties. But in Israel, the coming local elections are a complete mishmash of lists, with no political or ideological backbone.

In more than one city you can find Labor, Likud and NRP politicians running on opposing lists, based usually on personal agenda or vendetta, and their only motive is the quest for power, jobs and a better slice of the city pie.

For instance, nobody knows who really represents Likud in Tel Aviv, or who is Labor in Kfar Sava (where at least three candidates are members of that party), and this is only the tip of the iceberg.

Like the mythological Hydra they are all growing several heads and the local branches are constantly splitting. It is another sign of the weakening of the two major parties due to the disastrous affect

in the national government.

You can prove it by comparing the policies of the current mayor, Ehud Olmert, with those of his predecessor, Teddy Kollek. While Kollek sought peaceful coexistence between Jews and Arabs in the reunited city, and tried to prevent any provocative action against the Arab residents, Olmert's actions have been the total opposite. He did not miss an opportunity to provoke and harm the achievements of Kollek because of his political ambition to move one day from City Hall to the Prime Minister's Office.

Olmert's agenda is a legitimate one if approved by the electorate. The duty of all those who oppose it, and support peaceful coexistence in Jerusalem, is to do their utmost to prevent the election of Olmert and, if not feasible, to create a strong opposition to his policies in the city council.

Unfortunately the Labor Party is doing exactly the opposite. The officials of the local branch, supported by - of all people - Shimon Peres, are joining Olmert in exchange for some jobs.

The height of political corruption

Dry Bones



and prostitution: Peres, the Nobel Peace laureate, is supporting his arch-enemy Olmert, who led the fierce incitement against him in the last elections with the slogan "Peres will divide Jerusalem."

The only real reason for this corrupt maneuver is to get jobs for some of his people, against the democratic decisions of the Labor Party, and to undermine the authority of Ehud Barak.

Not that Barak is behaving better. His candidate, Professor Shimon Shetreet, did not succeed in uniting the secular, liberal and moderate religious forces in Jerusalem that oppose the policies of Olmert and his Orthodox partners.

Last week it seemed that the only person that might have a

chance is popular Labor MK Uzi Baram, who is a former leader of the Jerusalem Labor Party branch. All of those forces, including Peres' people, were ready to unite behind his candidacy. Except Shetreet, who refused to step down, and Barak, who refused to support Baram, fearing that a good showing in Jerusalem would make Baram a popular challenger to his failing leadership.

Thus Olmert can laugh all the way to election day. Jerusalem will lose a historical chance to return to the sane policies of Kollek, the Labor Party is on the verge of a split and self-destruction and Netanyahu is preparing to call for an early election when the opposition will be the least prepared.

Ooom shmoom

DAVID WEINBERG

doing so, the PLO seeks to use the annual re-accreditation process as a weapon with which to advance its territorial claims against Israel.

There's little worry here. Even the Europeans will oppose the PA initiative, along with several dozen Third World countries that have their own territorial conflicts. They don't like the precedent. But

of Israel in the "West European and Other" regional grouping at the UN. (which includes the US and Canada). Israel remains the only country denied membership in a UN subgroup, and consequently cannot be elected to key UN posts.

Maybe after we hand over Jerusalem to the Palestinians... or

Diplomatic aggression against Israel at the UN continues unabated

the very attempt to go after Israel this way proves my point: don't look for brotherhood at the UN.

Ah, you'll tell me, the UN has become a tamer place as far as Israel is concerned - at least since the Oslo Accords were signed. Not so. Three months to the day after the handshake on the White House lawn, in December 1993, the General Assembly voted overwhelmingly to condemn Israel for exercising its sovereignty over Jerusalem. And the GA repeatedly has been used to bash Israel on this issue and others since then.

Moreover, Oslo hasn't made us all that popular. Five years of Palestinian-Israeli reconciliation isn't reason enough for the European Community to reconsider its opposition to the inclu-

maybe not.

BUSY AS it is with Israel, the august international body hasn't had sufficient time to vigorously take on Algeria, where the slaughter of innocents continues daily, or the bloodletting in Indonesia, Albania, Congo, Kosovo, Nagorno-Karabach, Sudan, Zaire, etc., etc. Or the tension between India and Pakistan, between Iran and Afghanistan, and so on. So much for the maintaining of global peace and security.

The Security Council has spent a lot of time on Iraq, but the sincerity of the effort and its insignificant results to date now are being questioned. Scott Ritter, who just resigned his post as one of the lead inspectors for the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM),

charged with tracking Iraq's arsenal of weapons of mass destruction, says the UN is making a lot of noise; hype without hope, and without genuine resolve to confront Iraq where needed. For this he blames Washington.

So what's left for the very big and expensive United Nations General Assembly to do? Debate Israeli human rights abuses in the "occupied territories" (last year, the PLO rep claimed we were spreading AIDS in the West Bank and Gaza!); and to be busy with "upgrading" the status of the Palestinians.

This year, "Palestine" went from a two-seat regular observer delegation to a six-seat observer mission with the right to cosponsor resolutions.

Wow! A true boon to international peace and justice. Next year, expect full-blown festivities marking the Palestinian declaration of independence and recognition in the General Assembly of the new member "state."

Fine with me. Let the UN rustle up some electricity, water, tax dollars and 100,000 or so day-jobs for Mr. Arafat, because he ain't going to get these commodities and luxuries from Israel any more when he decides to go out on his own.

You see, the UN is not irrelevant, as David Ben-Gurion once quipped derisively. ("Ooom shmoom" was his scornful dismissal). The "Ooom" will have plenty to keep busy with after all.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MANY THANKS

Sir, - We are coming to the end of a wonderful holiday in Israel. However, last week during our week's stay in Tel Aviv, my wife sustained an injury to the back of her left ankle whilst lying on the beach trying to read and relax. A very enthusiastic young

Israeli landed on the back of her ankle in an effort to run after a ball hit off line, causing her immense pain. He apologized and disappeared, understandably perhaps.

The main point of my letter is that my wife received prompt and expert attention under Dr. Maman

and staff at Ichilov Hospital, where X-rays showed a fracture. Well done to all who made an unfortunate accident tolerable.

DR. L.C. WOLFMAN

Liverpool.

ROSENBLUM'S OFFER

Sir, - Kudos to Jonathan Rosenblum for "Coming clean at Yom Kippur" (September 25). While his voice in your paper is often angry and self-righteous (but, hey, someone's got to do it), I can vouch for the fact that he and his family provide the kindest, gentlest and most inspiring Shabbat hospitality.

I hereby suggest that anyone who's ever wanted to crumple up his column and throw it at the nearest hardy go ahead and take him up on his Shabbat offer. You won't regret it.

SHARON N. GALKIN

Jerusalem.

NO GUILT

Sir, - Twice in recent days, your paper has made reference to Nikolai Rappaport, who was killed on active service in the IDF. That the young man was a hero and a Zionist is beyond question. However, in retelling his story, you forgot to put the record straight - thus allowing an unwarranted and unfounded slur to be left against Israeli society as a whole.

After his tragic death, it is true that there was a scandal concerning Nikolai's having lived with his father in unspeakable conditions. However - the true reason for their lifestyle was soon uncovered. Both Nikolai (who as a fighter, received a much higher allowance than a regular conscripted soldier) and his

father (who had a relatively well-paid job) chose to live as they did. They were sending every shekel they could spare back (including the grants given to new immigrants) to the mother who had remained behind. At the time of his death, this money was in fact enough to allow them to escape from the dreadful poverty in which they lived in Russia - and to buy themselves a home there!!

To the other attributes that have been applied to Nikolai, we may add wonderful son and brother. What we do not need to add is any feeling of guilt on our part.

PAMELA LEVENE

Tel Shahr.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On October 4, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported that Mr. Shenkar, President of the Palestine Manufacturers Association, laid the foundation stone of the Palestine Industries Pavilion at the new Levant Fair Grounds in Tel Aviv.

25 years ago: On October 4,

1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that the cabinet began to consider the practical problems entailed in maintaining the flow of Soviet Jews through Austria. In Vienna Chancellor Bruno Kreisky admitted that he personally proposed closing down of the Schoenau transit camp after Arab

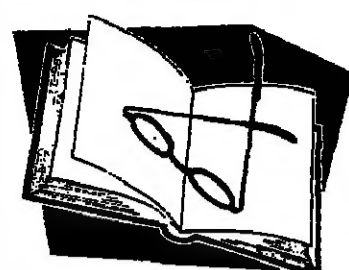
terrorists threatened to kill four hostages at Vienna airport. The Jewish Agency said that no alternative accommodation had been sought and the the Soviet emigrants were still continuing to be processed at Schoenau as usual.

Alexander Zvielli

שכנא מן הארץ

Salinger and the unfiltered female

BOOK REVIEW



By Kyrie O'Connor

Let's get the Big Question out of the way right now: Does columnist and novelist Joyce Maynard, age 44, have a right to center a big chunk of her memoir, *At Home in the World*, around her live-in relationship at age 18 with the famously reclusive and publicity-hating writer J.D. Salinger, then aged 53? Short answer: Sure. It's her life and it's her book.

Long answer: Salinger's retreat from public life has given him the status of a literary James Dean, a guy who did his great work (including, of course, *The Catcher in the Rye*) and then—poof!—was gone. That Salinger managed to gain all the advantages of dying young without the nasty inconvenience of dying doesn't exempt him from the observations of those who dare to point out that he's still living.

But enough, for now, about Salinger.

Maynard has built a large part of her career, from the April 1972 *New York Times Magazine* cover story, "An Eighteen-Year-Old Looks Back on Life," to now, on stories and columns about herself. This memoir lobs a hand grenade into much of her life's work.

None of it was true, she says. It was a prettified bit of fakery designed to make her seem more normal and more centered than she ever was. In truth, she says now, her parents were brilliant, thwarted and crazy, one alcoholic and the other sexually inappropriate; she was an anorexic and troubled teen and, later, a woman who married (and divorced, after three kids) a man like her frustrated father. She became a version of her controlling mother.

For the record, I have been following Maynard's career since that April 1972 article hit my hinterlands high school like lightning. I was a year younger, and she, the Yale student, seemed so smart and together. For years, I tracked her progress: I went to college near Yale, and she and I got married and had our first and second babies at about the same time. She wrote about all this, often with great beauty and feeling, and I, for one, was grateful. I'm grateful to find out she was lying, too.

because my life couldn't compete.

But my memory can. Maynard makes pronouncements and tiny errors that are irritating. She says anorexia wasn't a word in common parlance in 1972. (It was.) She misspells Crazy Guggenheim, Doug McClure, Lady Macbeth. Not important, but sloppy.

The tone of this memoir is one we've become familiar with from other memoirs, daytime talk shows and therapy sessions: Unfiltered American Female. Maynard doesn't seem to have sorted or ordered anything, or looked back with humor or sophistication or wryness.

Every detail is as agonizingly, air-suckingly important as every other, and often they reveal

Salinger comes off as a dyspeptic Polonius, a pompous predator and a controlling creep

things she herself doesn't seem to see. A story about writing her daughter's college application essay, then getting in a floor-wrestling fight with her, is horrifying, but it's presented rather uncritically. It's an awful moment.

Even on good days, Maynard seems to have no grasp of how overbearing she seems. When she insists on taking a role in the movie of her novel *To Die For*, the gesture comes off as greedy and selfish.

If she were a tougher cookie, too, she could have done a lovely number on old Salinger, who, even here, amid all her obvious puzzlement, comes off as a dyspeptic Polonius, a pompous predator and a controlling creep.

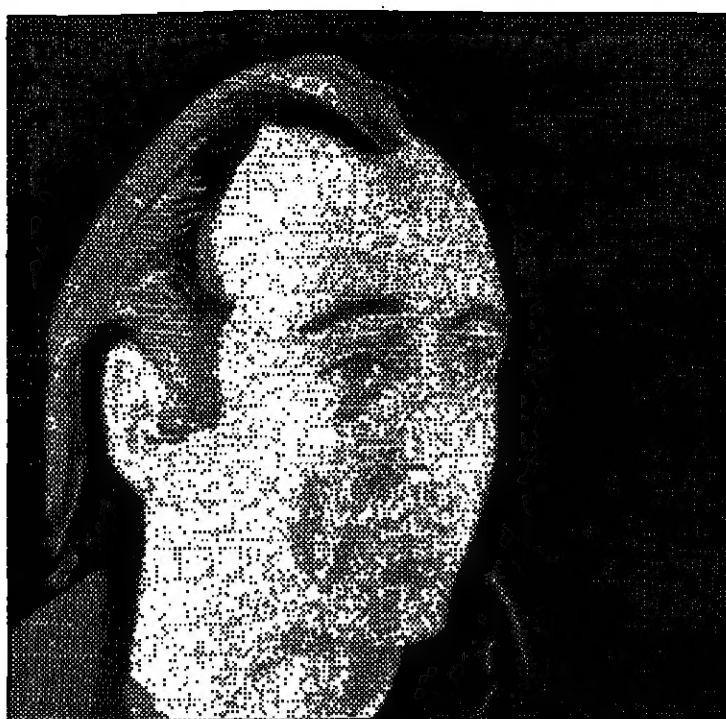
Imagine these details deployed by a slicing wit: Salinger serving frozen peas for breakfast. Salinger watching Lawrence Welk. Salinger screening the same '30s movies, over and over, night after night.

Salinger, a TV junkie, launching into a lengthy disquisition on the topic of Ron Howard's role as Opie on *The Andy Griffith Show*. Salinger's inability to coax Maynard (her body tells her what her brain won't) to have sexual intercourse with him.

She could have gleefully run him through the Cuisinart, but she seems, a quarter-century later, still too confused to do so. When in the course of writing this book she goes back to confront Salinger in person, the reader wishes she'd moved on long before.

But I don't begrudge Maynard this effort, however much I wish she'd waited until she could look back with more perspective. And truth to tell, even though it's not especially well done, it's as tough to set down as a bag of Doritos.

Maybe now that she's cleared the way, she can move on and find a new voice. I've known her for a long time, and I'd like to hear it. (The Hartford Courant)



Alex Katz: Man, watercolor and gouache (\$3,000-\$5,000 at Sotheby's New York)

Something for everyone

AT THE AUCTIONS

Sotheby's New York offers a two-part "Arcade Auction" this week (October 6 and 8), with nearly 500 lots that are a mishmash of schools, places and good and indifferent pieces, ranging from impressionists to post-modernists.

Many of the works are on paper and also vary wildly in estimate. Some begin at only \$500. There are also small bronzes and lovely drawings by the likes of Rodin and Henry Moore.

Outstanding among the enormous array of names are (alphabetically): Archipenko, Balthus, Benelmann, Bertio, Bombois, Bonnard, Bourdelle, Braque, Calder, de Chirico, Daumier, Sonia Delaunay (two fine Orphist gouaches), Derain, Diller, Van Dongen, Dufy, Dunoyer de Segonzac, Dzubas, Ernst, Forain, Foujita, Sam Francis, Gleizes, Gontcharova, Red Grooms, Al Held, Herbin, Hans Hofmann, Immedorf, Jenkins, Kisling, Kline, Lansky, Laurencin, the vastly underestimated American abstractionist Alfred Leslie, Lipshitz, Maillol, Man Ray, Mane-Katz, Marquet, Matta, Mokady (1), Morandi, Morisot, Noguchi, Nolde, O'Higgins, Paladino, Pearlstein, Pechstein, Picabia, Picasso, Pissarro, Rauschenberg, Renoir, Rieck, Rivers, our own Rubin, Samaras, Serusier, Sherman, Stamos, Steinbach, Steinberg, Tobey, Trova, Villon, Vlaminck, Vuillard and Warhol, to name less than half.

A fun selection, though I predict that many of the lesser lights, unnamed here, won't sell.

A SALE of British portrait miniatures at Christie's London on October 14 includes the collection of a German Jewish refugee who fought the British and French in World War I and whose memoirs of the fighting in Alsace-Lorraine are recorded in the archives of London's Imperial War Museum.

Walter Rappolt, born in Hamburg in 1898, came to England as a refugee from Hitler. In London he met and married Gertrude Liebermann, also a refugee from Hamburg.

The couple embarked on collecting 18th-century miniatures of known sitters by known British artists, though there are also works in the collection by several Germans. Rappolt once wrote that they endeavored to concentrate on "beautiful women and children and good-looking men of strong character." Hmm.

The highlight of the collection is a portrait of Sarah Hussey Delaval, Countess of Tyrconnel, by John Downman ARA (1750-1824). The

sitter wears a pale gray riding habit and a jaunty feather in her hat, her cheeks rosy from the bracing landscape (£10,000-£15,000).

More modestly priced is one of the first miniatures the Rappolts purchased, back in 1959: an enamel portrait of Thomas Knight (d. 1781) by German-born artist Christian Friedrich Zincke (1683-1767), who came to England in 1706 and studied under Charles Bolt (£700-£900).

PICASSOS FROM the collection of Picasso's most beautiful mistress, the artist and model Dora Maar (originally Theodora Markovitch), will be auctioned by Drouot of Paris on October 27. The 10 paintings and a number of drawings, engravings and photographs are expected to bring up to \$30m.

Among them is a study for *Guernica* entitled *The Weeping Woman*, for which Maar was the model. Many of Picasso's best portraits were inspired by her. She also painted and photographed him and had a reputation as a surrealist photographer. She was the model for a number of marvelous photographic studies by surrealist Man Ray.

Maar was first spotted by Picasso in 1936 as she sat in the Deux Magots stabbing the table between her fingers with a very sharp knife. Maar had a stormy 11-year relationship with Picasso and quarreled furiously with his wife Olga and another mistress, Marie Therese Walter, who later committed suicide after Picasso abandoned her. Maar's relationship with Picasso ended after he met Francoise Gilot in 1947.

The collection is being sold by Maar's family in order to pay French death duties.

A CINEMA poster for *The Invisible Man*, 1933, fetched an amazing \$36,700 at a Christie's London auction on September 22. It is only one of three known to survive but the price was nowhere near a world record. That was set some years ago when a sole surviving promo for *The Mummy* went for \$450,000.

TWO SALES of Japanese paintings, woodcuts, inro and netsuke at Sotheby's New York last month (including items from the Greenfield Collection) went for a healthy total of \$2.46m, though a third of the lots, including many indifferent turn-of-the-century decedents, went unsold.

One of the top prices was achieved by a 20th-century screen of pine trees and cranes painted by 20th-century artist Yokoyama Taikan (d. 1958), a traditional work employing classical mineral pigments and selected by this column as a major piece. It went for its median estimate of \$442,500.

Among the woodcuts, top price went to a double sheet of a snowy



Pierre-Auguste Renoir: Rosita Maury, charcoal on paper, 1876 (\$20,000-\$30,000 at Sotheby's Arcade Auction)

Reuven Rubin: Rider with Bouquet, oils, 1971 (\$25,000-\$35,000 at Sotheby's Arcade auction, NY)



gorge by Utagawa Hiroshige (1797-1858), which fetched \$40,250, its median estimate. A *Hokusai* series from the *100 Views of Fuji* series fetched \$33,350.

Also during Sotheby's Asian week, a sale of Chinese pottery

brought an expected \$2m. and another sale of Nepalese and Indian Buddhas fetched nearly \$3.9m. The good pieces all made their estimates but it's worth noting that 283 of the 599 lots went unsold.

On the other hand, every single lot in Sotheby's London auction of Geri Halliwell's Spice Girl mementos recently, was sold. Her very brief Union Jack dress worn for the Brit Awards of 1997 went for £41,320, five times its estimate.

The Harry Torczyner, Esq. Collection - Special Preview in Tel Aviv

Also Viewing Highlights from Amsterdam Sales at the Tel Aviv Hilton Hotel.



René Magritte, *Le fils de l'homme*, Oil on canvas, 49x33" (116x84cm). Estimate: \$2,500,000-3,500,000. To be sold at Christie's New York on 19 November 1998.

CHRISTIE'S

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JUDGE FOR YOURSELF!

Earthly Concerns



By D'vora Ben Shaul

When, in 1997, the European Union passed a very explicit regulation saying, "In the future, no toxic or hazardous waste material may or will be exported to any other place, state or location," some of us—perhaps naively—thought that would be the end of toxic waste exports. But it wasn't. For if you cannot

export hazardous or dangerous waste—and you must rid yourself of it—what do you do?

The answer, for many businesses and countries, has been a simple one: Just declare the waste to be non-toxic and non-hazardous.

Thus, over the past several years, more toxic waste—carefully labeled "non-toxic"—has found its way into the Third World than all the waste dumped there before.

Why has this happened? Because of a simple fact: The EU is no overseer. Yes, the organization does have its own monitors, but those experts tend to render decisions that favor the EU's activities. So, in the end, there is no real monitoring at all.

Every week tons of dangerous waste, including radioactive materials, hospital waste with the active HIV virus, and chemicals that produce highly toxic fumes



1995: Greenpeace campaigners attempt to stop Shell oil workers moving hazardous waste from the North Sea for dumping in deep water in the Atlantic Ocean. (AP)

when burned are exported with impunity to countries in the Third World.

Who are the recipients? They are small countries in Africa, on the

Pacific Rim and in South America—poor, starved for commerce, and dollar-hungry. Given the chance to make a big bundle of American dollars in return for minimal effort,

they don't turn it down. Do they know what they are doing? Do they know the nature of the waste? Are they aware of the danger to their own populations? Perhaps.

But it is so much easier to say "I trust the EU. I am sure it would never endanger my people." It's a lovely sentiment—but the harsh truth is that the EU has only its own interests at heart. Its members need to dispose of hundreds of tons of toxic material, and no place in Europe will accept it.

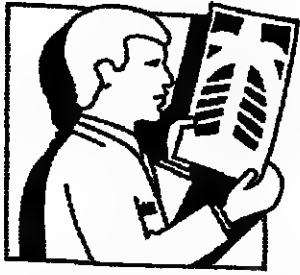
There is an alternative to exporting the waste: incinerating it at very high temperatures. But this would cost millions, and neither the EU nor any other Western power will consider it.

So for now, it looks as if the burden of the West will continue to fall, as it usually does, on the weaker, less-developed countries.

סכנה מן האוויר

Vivaldi can stem hospital violence

Health Scan



By Post Health Reporter

A new weapon against violence in hospital emergency rooms and clinics, beyond guards and emergency beepers, could be... classical music.

A study conducted by doctors at Tel Aviv University's Sackler Medical School found that 89% of patients polled "felt better" with recordings of classical music in the waiting room.

In a study of 118 patients visiting a family physician's clinic in the Sharon area, published in the latest issue of *Harefuah*, classical music tapes were sounded at low volume for five days in a row in the clinic.

Patients were queried when they were about to leave.

The researchers found that 35% of those who responded preferred soothing classical music, 17% would have liked Hebrew melodies, and the rest had no preference.

Eight out of 10 thought soothing music was even likely to improve the performance of the doctor treating them.

They noted that the doctor himself was under pressure, and that music could help him calm down.

Previous studies have shown that background music can reduce stress, anxiety and pain — and that words don't have the same effect.

Music therapy is used on cancer patients and others in great distress.

PUFFING AWAY POTENCY

Smoking can shrink men's manhood, according to a warning by researchers at the Boston University School of Medicine.

Preliminary findings from a study of 200 men, revealed in London's *Observer*, showed that smoking can reduce the size of a man's erect penis.

Researcher Dr. Pedram Salimpour said the findings were statistically significant and promised they would soon be revealed in full to the International Society of Impotence Research in Amsterdam.

Smoking affects the penis in the same way that it does the heart, damaging the blood vessels and inhibiting blood flow.

This, in turn affects elastin, the substance believed to govern a man's ability to have an erection. Salimpour said smoking damages the ability to stretch — but it is still not known how long it takes for the damage to be inflicted.

Anti-smoking campaigners welcomed the findings as a way of shocking smokers into stopping.

"There may be people out there who don't care at all about the risk of getting cancer later on but might be really upset if they thought it was interfering with their sex lives," said Clive Bates, director of Britain's ASH (Action on Smoking and Health).

"The advantage of the penis is that it's easy to imagine it shriveled up and shrunken, whereas damage to other vital organs such as the heart is much less obvious or easy to visualize."

Allowing the terminally ill to die in peace

Israeli doctors are beginning to view easing the end of life as no less important than saving life.
Judy Siegel-Itzkovich talks to an expert in the field

The two things patients with terminal illnesses most fear are pain and suffocation. But life doesn't have to end in gnawing agony or the feeling that one is being submerged underwater — if patients' doctors know how to offer suitable palliative care.

The problem is that caring for terminal patients — relieving their pain and offering emotional and social support — isn't yet taught in Israeli medical schools, and practicing physicians may avoid dealing with patients they can't cure.

Nursing schools, though, are more advanced. All have introduced or are introducing courses in palliative medicine (the word comes from the word "cloak," meaning to encompass with care).

Dr. Nathan Cherny, director of the cancer pain and palliative medicine services unit at Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital, was one of the handful of experts in the field when he immigrated from Australia four years ago.

Initially, as he pressed for alleviating the pain of the terminally ill he was regarded at Shaare Zedek as something of an eccentric; but many colleagues have come around to understanding that easing the end of life is as important as treating people who have a good chance of surviving.

Cherny hopes to advance this understanding at the first Bella Sebbia Lecture in Palliative Care, to be held this week (October 7 and 8) in Shaare Zedek's Steinberg Auditorium. The family of Mrs. Sebbia, who died recently, have donated funds to sponsor an annual symposium on the subject.

Montreal expert Prof. Neil McDonald, who authored the *Oxford Textbook of Palliative Care*, and Margo McCaffery, a leading nurse educator in the field of pain, will be guest speakers at the symposium, which will be open free to professionals and the lay public alike.

The event is being held under the auspices of the Israel Cancer Association and in cooperation with

the Israel Pain Society and the Israel Palliative Care Association (the latter, headed by Prof. Pesach Schwartzman of Ben-Gurion University with Cherny on the board, has 200 members).

CHERNY knows firsthand about cancer pain.

As a 20-year-old medical student at Monash University School of Medicine in Melbourne, he was diagnosed with testicular cancer. The cancer later metastasized to his lung, requiring chemotherapy with a drug that had been discovered only two years before. A lobe of his lung was removed and he was cured.

But he recalls that he "had terrible post-operative pain for 10 days. Relief was given on a strict schedule every four hours, so when I woke up in pain and asked for medication, the nurse said I'd have to wait for another two hours," recalls Cherny, who is described by his patients as "an angel."

Progress is being made slowly. BGU and Tel Aviv University Medical Schools are now developing a curriculum for palliative medicine (although neither the Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Medicine nor the Technion Medical School have gone this far); in addition, since Cherny and Schwartzman began putting questions about palliative medicine on qualifying exams for oncology specialists, more doctors have been seeking information on the subject.

It took five years for palliative medicine to be recognized in England as a sub-specialty, and here, the Israel Medical Association has accepted it only as an "interest group."

Asked why the Jerusalem and Haifa medical schools seem reluctant to introduce the subject, Cherny said there is pressure against new topics by some professors who fear their inclusion will come at the expense of their subjects. In foreign medical schools, students have attended lectures on palliative medicine held after hours.

But Cherny is optimistic. He expects that "in five years, every hospital in the country will have an integrated palliative care and oncology care unit."

There are a handful of hospices here (at Hadassah-University Hospital on Mt. Scopus, Sheba Hospital at Tel Hashomer and the French Hospital in Jerusalem). But the more modern approach, Cherny says, is to offer palliative care from the very moment of diagnosis, not only when the patient enters a hospice.

Dr. Paul Fefer, a new resident at Shaare Zedek who earned his MD degree at BGU, definitely plans to attend the Sebbia symposium after facing the family of a terminally ill woman patient recently.

"On call in the ward a few nights ago, I rushed the bedside of a 63-year-old woman with terminal lung cancer who was finding it difficult to breathe. Family members sitting with her were desperate for guidance. I didn't know how to deal with them or how to ease the patient's problems."

"It was very hard for me because I hadn't known the patient or the family, and hadn't been taught palliative medicine."

Cherny, who with his Norwegian-born nurse Jureh Upstead and other colleagues is on call around the clock, advised giving the patient appropriate doses of morphine to stabilize breathing and relieve pain.

"Many doctors fear to give morphine to terminal patients out of the baseless fear that it will become addictive or kill them," he says. "But if they give the dose correctly, in the right form and at the right frequency, it can relieve pain and eliminate that feeling of suffocation."

PALLIATIVE medicine is not only for oncology patients, but also for those with cystic fibrosis, Gaucher's disease and kidney failure, Cherny says.

The large majority of terminal patients want full information about their disease, according to a study Cherny conducted, recently along



A patient at Shaare Zedek confides in nurse Jureh Upstead, while Dr. Nathan Cherny looks on: His patients call him 'an angel.'

with Shaare Zedek colleagues. Of 100 patients surveyed, only six said they wanted their families to be told their diagnosis and prognosis instead of hearing it themselves. Of the 94% who wanted to be told, all preferred a patient, considerate explanation from their doctor.

"Telling someone that he's dying isn't easy," says Cherny. "I decide how to behave according to the feel I've gotten of the patient. Some do best if I sit on the bed or chair and hold their hand, while others are the type who want me to sit on the other side of a desk. I go over what tests and treatments have been tried, then talk about dealing with the pain and making the patient as comfortable as possible."

Hospital staffers who deal with terminal patients meet weekly to ease their own anxieties. Sharing concerns and feelings make it easier to cope.

CHERNY'S humanity made it easier for Avi Guy, a 44-year-old plumbing contractor, and his wife Idit, an educational adviser, to accept the horrible news that Avi has incurable stomach cancer.

The Guys, who live in Beit Zayit and have four children aged 19 to 13, intentionally transferred to Shaare Zedek from another Jerusalem hospital after Avi's doctor told him there was "nothing we can do."

Idit recalls her husband's diagnosis in December, after he suffered weight loss and stomach pain.

"From the first meeting with Dr. Cherny we felt his tremendous rapport and concern. He gave us his phone number at home, and if we didn't call, he called us — worried — to ask how Avi was."

Cherny found that the obstruction in Guy's digestive system was causing liquids to swell his stomach,

making it difficult for him to eat and taking away his appetite. Steroids improved his condition, and he is now home and able to eat.

"He gave us skin patches with pain relievers, which are better than pills or injections. He relates to us at 'eye level,' and doesn't talk down to us," says Idit. "We don't feel we're being a nuisance when we consult with him."

Concludes Cherny: "We already have the tools to treat cancer pain; we just need the knowledge and the desire to apply them."

Doesn't he find his work depressing? On the contrary, Cherny says. "It's very rewarding. It's a unique ability to have a big impact on the patient and his family."

"If relatives watch a loved one succumb to death, it can scar them for the rest of their lives. They are very grateful to see them die in peace, without suffering."

Today's tall toddler may become tomorrow's bully

By MEG SULLIVAN

When it comes to predicting which toddlers will be the schoolyard bullies of tomorrow, size does matter, according to a study in the *Archives of General Psychiatry*.

"Three-year-olds — male or female — who average just 1.5 centimeters taller than their peers tend to be more aggressive than normal when they reach age 11," says Dr. Adrian Raine, lead author of the study.

The same is true of toddlers who are more fearless and stimulation-seeking than their peers, says Dr. Raine, a professor of psychology in the University of Southern California's College of Letters, Arts and Sciences. Prior research has consistently shown that the most aggressive children at age 11 are more likely than normal to become violent criminals as adults — regardless of their height at age 11.

Raine stresses, however, that the findings cannot be used to predict accurately whether any particular child will or will not grow up to be a criminal.

"We're saying there are early markers — warning signs, really — that are predictive for future aggressiveness and possibly even for violent crime," Raine says. "But it's not a one-to-one relationship."

"Not every tall child is going to be aggressive, and not every stimulation-seeking child is going to be aggressive. Such children are just more likely to be aggressive."

Raine continues that there appears to be a critical period in development — sometime after age three, but before age 11 — when a child learns to use his physical advantage to aggressive ends.

"Parents of tall toddlers — especially those who are very stimulation-seeking and fearless — need to take extra care to drive home the message that there are a lot better ways than physical force to get what you want in life."



Throwing weight about: Parents must emphasize early that there are better ways than physical force to get what you want. (Israel Talby)

Raine, a clinical neuroscientist, led a team of researchers who measured the height and weight of 1,130 male and female three-year-olds in Mauritius, a racially mixed island nation in the Indian Ocean off the coast of Africa. The island's low emigration rate facilitated the researchers' ability to track the toddlers as they got older.

While toddlers, the children were ranked on several stimulation-seeking scales, including a four-point scale that tested their willingness to explore toys independently of their mother in a laboratory setting; whether they clung passively to mother; showed interest in toys but stayed close to mother; left mother to explore toys, but returned to

mother; or actively explored toys without returning to mother.

THE connection between aggressiveness at 11 and a toddler's height or propensity to seek stimulation could not be explained by differences in family income, educational attainment among parents or any other aspect of the child's socioeconomic background. The link to aggressiveness at 11 was as strong for tall female toddlers as for tall male toddlers. The differences were the same for the two ethnic groups studied, Indian and Creole.

The researchers used several fearlessness scales, including a five-point scale — ranging from 1 (no crying) to 5 (uncontrollable crying)

— to gauge how fearful the toddlers were while undergoing testing for physiological arousal.

When the children reached age 11, their mothers answered questionnaires to measure the youths' aggressiveness ("fights," "is cruel," "swears" and "threatens"). Youths ranked by their mothers in the highest 15th percentile on an aggression scale were found to have stood, as toddlers, an average of 1.5 centimeters above their peers.

Aggressive 11-year-olds had also weighed slightly more than their peers at age three, but the link with future aggressiveness proved statistically less strong for weight than for height. Similarly, the most aggressive 11-year-olds were found

to have been more stimulation-seeking and fearless than their three-year-old peers.

"Parents of a toddler who is even slightly taller than his peers might want to be vigilant that their child does not become a preschool bully," says Raine, author of *The Psychopathology of Crime: Criminal Behavior as a Clinical Disorder*.

Further study is needed to determine why height would turn out to be such a strong predictor of future aggressiveness, but Raine believes a male hormone may play some role.

"We know that people who are taller have higher testosterone levels," he explains, "so tallness in toddlers may be a marker for increased

testosterone. Although the findings are debated, quite a number of studies have shown that violent offenders are higher than normal in testosterone."

If testosterone were the only key, the most aggressive 11-year-olds might be expected to stand taller than their less aggressive peers. Yet no research has ever borne out such a connection.

SOCIAL learning theory suggests a further explanation. "A big toddler eventually learns he can use force to get what he wants from other kids," Raine says. "So by the time the child reaches 11, aggressive behavior is ingrained — whether he still is taller than his peers or not."

The link between a stimulation-seeking attitude and aggressiveness also merits further research, says Raine. One explanation for the connection may lie in low arousal levels in an individual's autonomic nervous system — levels that appear to be determined either at birth or at a very young age.

In earlier research, Raine showed that toddlers with low heart rates tend to be more aggressive as 11-year-olds than their peers with higher arousal rates.

"Individuals with low arousal rates appear to seek out stimulation to create a sort of arousal jag," Raine notes. "Just as exploring toys independently of your mother may produce a stimulation jag at age three, so beating up another kid may produce a stimulation jag at age 11."

Difficulty in supervising the most stimulation-seeking children might also play a role in their propensity to get into trouble as they age.

"One of the strongest predictors of delinquency is lack of parental supervision," Raine says. "Stimulation-seeking children could more frequently get into trouble as they get older because they're harder to monitor than the kid who stays home and reads." (University of Southern California News Service)

Cortical cataracts: Why everyone really needs sunglasses

By KAREN INFELD

There are no safe amounts of ultraviolet ray exposure: It cumulatively causes risk of cataracts. And this means people should protect their eyes from sunlight all year round, whatever their age, race or sex.

Ophthalmologists at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore recently completed a major study of the effects of sunlight on the eyes and advise people to shield their eyes when they're out in the sun.

"We've found there is no safe dose of exposure to the sun's ultraviolet B rays when it comes to the risk of cortical cataracts

— which means people of all ages, races and both sexes should protect their eyes from sunlight year-round, says Dr. Sheila West of the Johns Hopkins Wilmer Eye Institute.

Cataract, a clouding of the eyes' clear lenses, occurs when proteins in the lens change their structure due to UV-B light exposure and block light coming into the eye. Cortical cataracts affect the front of the lens.

West is senior author of a report on the study, published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* and supported by the US National Institute on Aging.

The finding comes several years after the so-called "watermen's study," in which West and her colleagues showed that crab fishermen working on Maryland's Chesapeake Bay had more cortical cataracts than people with less sunlight exposure.

The current finding shows that even the general public — those who work indoors and only get sunlight during leisure activities in the yard or on vacation — may be at increased risk for cortical cataract if precautions aren't taken.

The Hopkins study, conducted in Salisbury, Maryland, determined the amount of UV-B exposure in 2,520 adults,

age 64 to 84.

The Hopkins researchers photographed the lenses of all participants and questioned them about their use of glasses, sunglasses and hats during work and leisure activity, as well as the geographical locations of these activities.

The team also used a special device mounted on the eyeglasses of over 250 participants to measure the amount of UV-B light that reached their eyes.

THE results of the study are especially important for children, according to West, because they have many years of exposure ahead of them, and the effect of sunlight

exposure appears to be lifelong.

"Kids get sunburned just like adults," West says. "So there's no reason to think they are more resistant than adults to lens damage from UV-B rays."

"Every time you go out into the sun, your eyes can take a hit from UV-B rays," says West.

The good news is it's never too late to start protecting your eyes, because the lens change is probably from an accumulated dose over the years. That's why everyone needs to get into the habit of protecting their eyes.

Even inexpensive, UV-filtering plastic sunglasses are good absorbers of UV-B,

according to West, and how dark the glasses are isn't an issue, since any plastic eyewear will absorb the invisible UV-B light.

For children, however, glasses should be shatterproof to prevent eye injury in case of accident.

Dark glasses are needed to block the visible light from the sun.

The researchers calculated there is a 10 percent increase in cataract risk for every 0.01 "Maryland sun years" of exposure (the amount of UV-B that falls in Maryland over one year).

The eye receives anywhere from 9 percent to 18 percent of this exposure. (Johns Hopkins University News Service)

TELL ME WHY

Animals see things quite differently

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

I know that animals don't go around wearing eyeglasses, but I was wondering: Do they develop myopia as they age, and does their inability to see cause their death from starvation because they can't find their food or catch prey? Jay, Kiryat Shmona

Dr. David Ilam, a senior zoologist at Tel Aviv University, answers:

Animals' vision is generally different from that of humans. Most mammals don't see color; they live in a world of black and white. Myopia can actually improve a predator's ability to catch its prey if it's nearby and the predator doesn't have to run long distances after it; in any case, sharpness of vision is critical in catching prey – and in eluding capture. Deer, for example, can see a human or a predator from hundreds of meters away.

Aside from the lack of color vision in most mammals, another difference is that the lens in their eyes moves forward and backward so that the object being viewed remains in focus. Humans don't have this advantage.

There are, of course, animals such as owls that capture their prey at night. Their eyes are very sophisticated, and their other senses are strong to compensate for the lack of light. Some animals don't depend much on sight at all: they use their sense of smell and the touch of their whiskers to detect moving things.

Why doesn't a pregnant woman's body reject her fetus as

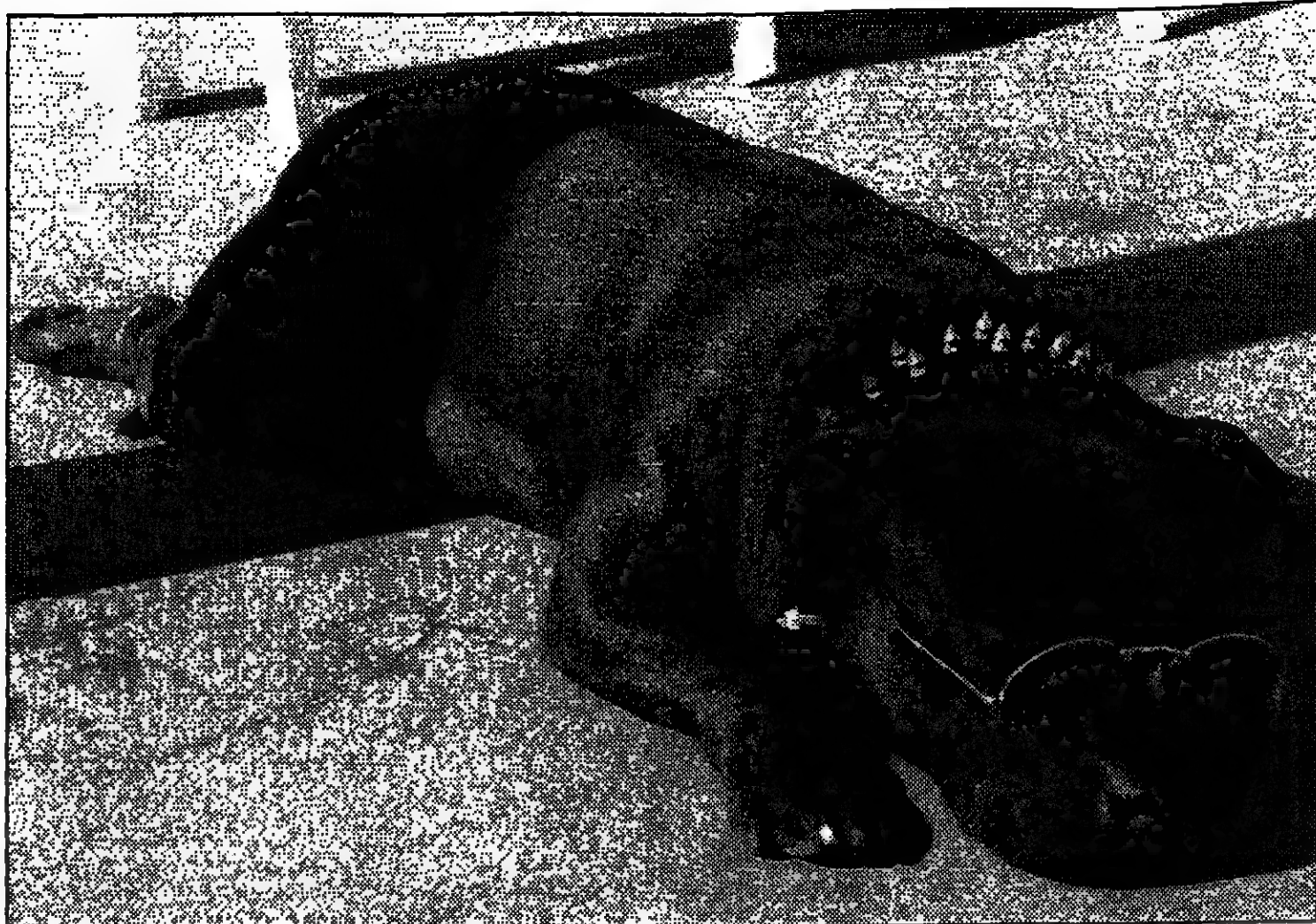
foreign tissue, as it would if it were a transplanted heart or liver? Shelly, Ma'aleh Adumim

Prof. Joseph Schenker, head of the department of obstetrics and gynecology at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem, comments:

This is one of the major scientific questions that have been extensively researched without any clear answer being reached. There are many theories: One is that the woman's immune system becomes less hostile to the fetus, which is immunologically different from her own, because of the progesterone produced during pregnancy. A person who receives an organ transplant must take steroids, which reduce the entire body's rejection of the foreign tissue. Progesterone does the same thing, but only locally, in the womb.

When we carried out the first in-vitro fertilization in Israel with a donated ovum (because the woman had no ovaries), we feared it would be rejected by the woman's body because it was foreign to her immune system. But it wasn't rejected, because we gave her lots of progesterone (lacking ovaries and their corpus luteum, she didn't produce this hormone herself).

Another puzzle is the fact that when a woman becomes pregnant from a man with a very similar tissue type, the risk of spontaneous abortion is much higher than in other cases. We don't know why this occurs; logically, it should be the other way around. In rare cases, women who are "allergic" to their partners' sperm



This dog's making a real spectacle of itself – or maybe it's recovering from a hangover.

(David Brauner)

can undergo immunization with white cells from a complete stranger, but since this can pose serious risks, it isn't often done.

This question comes from my seven-year-old son: We all know that ignition (fire) without oxygen is impossible. So how can

there be explosions, fire and combustion in the sun if there is no oxygen in outer space? Dardo, Migdal Ha'emek

Prof. Ariel Cohen, head of the department of atmospheric sciences and astronomy at the Hebrew University, replies:

The sun may look as if it produces fire, but it doesn't. Fire, as we know it on earth, is the result of a chemical reaction, a type of burning that requires the presence of oxygen. But fire isn't the only way to achieve high temperatures. The heat of the sun is created by nuclear reactions, which don't require oxygen. The high temperatures on the sun release radiation energy, which looks like fire, but isn't. One could theoretically conduct nuclear reactions in space, as they wouldn't need oxygen.

Does lightning strike only or mostly over land, or also over the sea? Robert, Kfar Sava

Prof. Avraham Zangvil, a meteorological expert at the Institute for Desert Research at Ben-Gurion University in the Negev, answers:

The sea attracts the electricity from lightning to a lesser extent than does the earth, but – as any sailor can tell you – there are lightning storms over bodies of water as well.

Tall trees and man-made structures that stick up into the sky are more likely to be hit by lightning than objects close to the ground, but lightning does reach the earth as well.

Have you always wondered about the scientific explanation for ordinary phenomena? Now you can get an answer. Mail your question to TELL ME WHY, The Jerusalem Post, P.O. Box 81, 91000 Jerusalem, fax it to (02) 5389527, or send it by e-mail to jusie@post.co.il. Please include your first name and place of residence.

Did we 'catch' our immune systems?

By MAGGIE FOX

Hundreds of millions of years ago, a primitive shark swimming in the ocean caught some kind of infection. It must not have made the shark terribly sick, because it lived to pass on the effects in its genes.

What the bug did do was give the shark its sophisticated immune system – and the shark passed this on to all its progeny, including, eventually, to human beings.

It seems fantastic; but scientists are coming up with evidence to support the increasingly popular theory that the basis of the immune system we now have literally jumped from microbes into higher animals.

"We tend to think of microbes as evil, but the fact of the matter is we need bacteria in our guts to digest, and it appears that the transposition of genes by a virus was a very frequent occurrence," says John Marchalonis, an immunologist at the University of Arizona.

Humans have 80,000 to 100,000 genes interspersed with "junk" DNA, whose function no one knows. Many of our genes are shared with a range of animals right down to the lowly yeast.

But there are genes that some animals have and others do not. Several recent studies are homing in on a pair of genes, known as "RAG1" and "RAG2," which seem to have popped up mysteriously about 450 million years ago – just as jawed vertebrates such as primitive sharks branched off from jawless vertebrates such as lampreys.

"People have not found them in starfish or other creatures related to vertebrates, and they cannot be detected in insects or lampreys," Marchalonis said.

However, they are found in microbes.

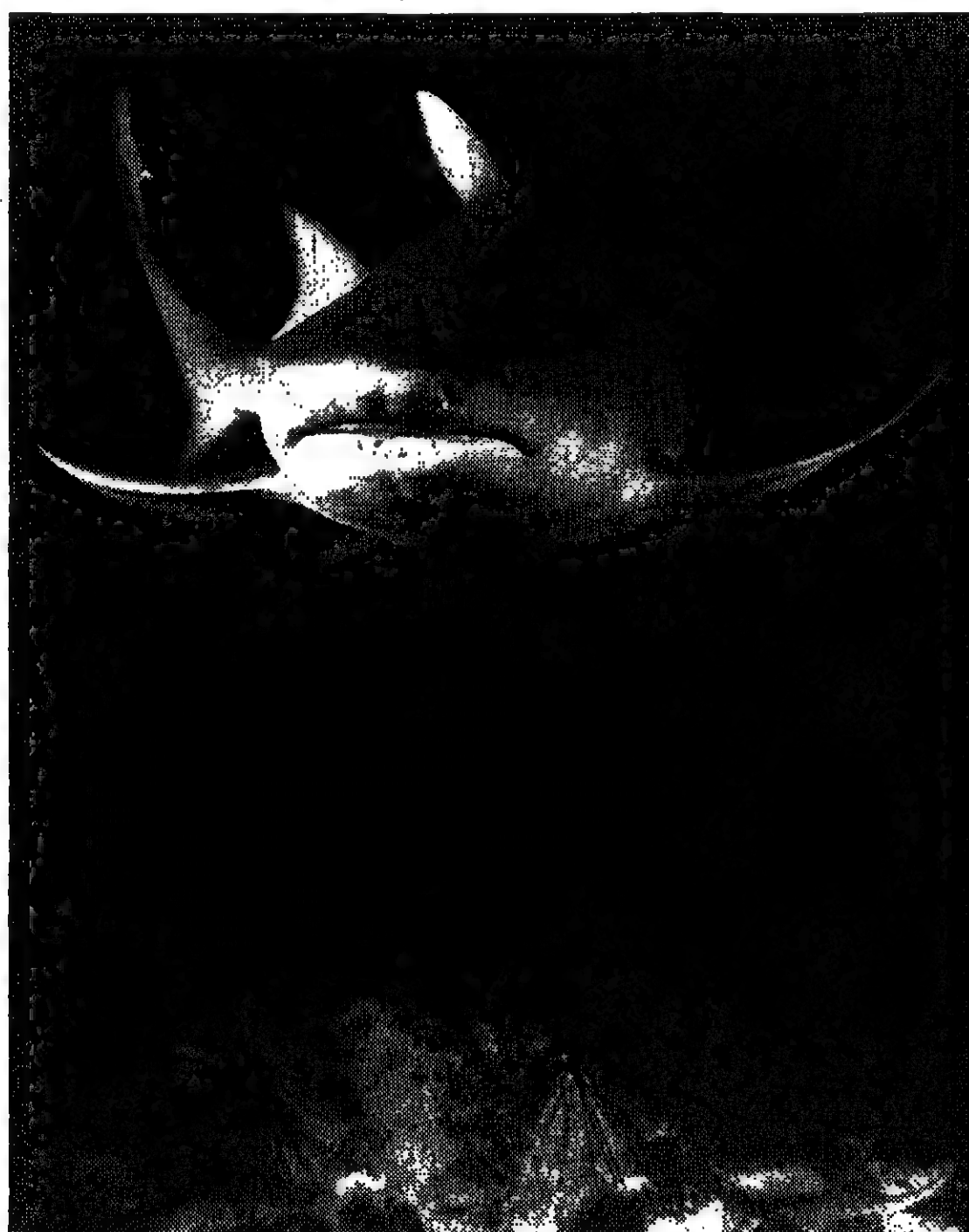
They seem to have leapt from microbes right into higher vertebrates, bypassing millions of years of animal development in-between. Interestingly enough, that happened at the same time that vertebrates may have developed their advanced, dual-attack immune system.

DAVID Schatz and colleagues at Yale University reported in a recent issue of the science journal *Nature* that they had determined that RAG1 and RAG2 act together as transposons – genes that let DNA literally jump around.

This seems to happen not only inside an individual animal's genome – its collection of genes, chromosomes and other genetic material – but also from creature to creature. This ability can be especially useful in helping the immune system to adapt.

The theory goes that, somehow, RAG1 and RAG2 got into vertebrates, allowing them to evolve their sophisticated immune systems.

There are two elements to our immune system. The innate immune system, which primitive vertebrates share with jawed ver-



Human beings may owe a greater debt to the shark than they know – their sophisticated immune systems.

tebrates, consists of macrophages that engulf invaders and natural killer cells that kill haphazardly.

The second line of attack is the adaptive immune system, which generates a tailored response to each invader and can create "memory" cells that can respond to the same invader, such as a particular strain of influenza, over and over again.

It is this adaptive system, with its B cells and T cells, that is stimulated by vaccinations, for example.

The adaptive immune system uses antigens – proteins on the surface of the invader that flag it as a foreign body – to help white blood lymphocytes recognize bad guys.

Lymphocytes use a kind of lock-and-key system to attack invaders. Each memory cell rearranges its surface molecules to match an invader and "remembers" the configuration for the next attack.

So how did this piece of DNA containing these cut-and-paste genes get into animals? Marchalonis and others think it

was as simple as an infection.

"It was caused by a viral infection. Some kind of primitive virus that gave it these transposons," Marchalonis said.

THE idea is not so far-fetched. Many viruses work by injecting their genetic material into a cell, turning it into a little virus factory pumping out more copies of the virus. This viral material can become permanently imbedded in the infected animal's genome and passed on to its offspring.

An example is the porcine endogenous retro-virus found in pigs. This is part of the reason technology to transplant animal organs into humans has been put on hold – no one knows whether these viruses can infect humans and, if so, whether they would do any harm.

Pigs, who suffer no ill-effects, probably got the viruses from an infection as well.

Schatz does not think this is precisely how the RAG genes got transmitted, but says it is possible.

"The mechanism by which RAG1 and RAG2 insert a piece of DNA into another piece of DNA resembles that of a retro-viral integrase," he said, referring to enzymes that help retro-viruses – like HIV, the virus that causes AIDS – integrate themselves into a cell. How else would it get into a vertebrate cell?

"I wonder whether some sort of bacterial infection, or maybe a fungal infection, might have been responsible."

It is also not clear what the genes originally did. Since microbes do not have immune systems, the genes had another function millions of years ago.

Schatz explained that "400 or 500 million years ago, [microbes] didn't care at all about putting genes together. They just cared about jumping around from place to place, essentially ensuring their own survival."

"But once they jumped into our ancestor, probably largely by accident, in an amazing stroke of luck they conferred this advantage."

(Reuters)

Molecular magnets have a future in high-tech



By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

A new class of magnetic materials composed of clusters of inorganic molecules has been created by Weizmann Institute scientists and reported in the latest issue of *Nature*. These molecular magnets show an unusual combination of characteristics that open up new possibilities for research, and may lead to a broad range of future applications in the microelectronics industry, says research leader Prof. Reshef Tenne of the Rehovot Institute's department of materials and interfaces.

The team (which includes graduate student Yaron Rosenfeld Hachon, Dr. Enrique Grunbaum of Weizmann and Drs. Jeremy Sloan and John Hudson of Oxford University) is now developing methods for synthesizing large amounts of the materials to study their magnetic properties in

greater detail and make it possible to conduct industrial testing.

Molecular magnets are important because they allow the microelectronics industry to reach their target of miniaturization for the creation of increasingly smaller devices. Such magnets can be especially useful in packing a large amount of computer memory into a small area.

Hard-disk memory is usually comprised of many magnetic switches. Ideally a magnetic on-off switch in a computer is operated by a relatively weak magnetic force so its polarity can be changed easily, but it can still be stable enough to preserve its polarity over the long term.

But placing them adjacent to each other causes magnetic force interference. When the polarity of one magnet is changed the orientation of nearby magnets changes as well, making memory storage unreliable.

Fortunately, the new nickel dichloride molecules, which have no impurities, promise a solution to this problem, because they are relatively "indifferent" to their neighbors and to temperature, oxidation and other environmental influences.

Some of the unusual nickel dichloride molecules are shaped like tubes, and are called nan-

otubes. Others are soccer-ball-shaped and are called fullerenes.

The way in which they were created is also unusual.

Instead of producing big pieces of magnetic material, Tenne and his research team built the magnetic molecules from individual atoms. The molecules then assembled themselves into a spherical layer one molecule thick.

Creating magnetic material through this "bottom-up" approach gives researchers exact control over the structure and size of the molecules and number of layers, Tenne says.

"It's like constructing a building from individual bricks instead of moving around the walls within a prefabricated house," he explained.

Although Tenne and Weizmann colleagues pioneered the study of nanotubes and fullerenes in the early '90s, they have now expanded the field by introducing a completely new family of compounds.

Aside from facilitating miniaturization of computer memory, the new substances can be used for extremely fine "etching" of data on magnetic disks and "reading" this information.

As semiconductors, they can also be used to create switches operated by an electric current and not only a magnetic field, making

That's no zebra – it's a quagga!

By PAUL HARRIS

Creeping a rise on the bumpy game park road, the Land Rover momentarily stalls a herd of seven odd-looking zebras.

"There they are! Wonderful, wonderful!" exclaimed park ranger Theresa Huber, cutting the engine so as not to scare off the skittish creatures munching on grass and leaves in the semi-desert Karoo National Park.

The strange zebras, with only faint stripes on the hind quarters and a brownish tinge, have not been seen in this vast arid region in the middle of South Africa for more than 100 years.

Known as quaggas (pronounced KWOK-ka) the animals were hunted to extinction at the end of the 19th century. The last true quagga, a scrawny-looking mare, died in a Dutch zoo on Aug. 12, 1883. South African scientists hope to resurrect the quagga by breeding zebras with similar characteristics.

In March, 11 animals from the breeding program were released into the Karoo, where millions once roamed. German-born taxidermist Reinhold Rau came up with the idea of resurrecting the quagga after remounting a stuffed specimen at the South African Museum in Cape Town.

While removing the skin, Rau discovered dried blood and muscle tissue – material that preserved DNA, the genetic blueprint for life. DNA analysis eventually proved that quaggas were a subspecies of

the plains zebra, not a separate species – which meant quagga genes could still lurk in plains zebras.

Using funds raised privately from donations, Rau scoured game reserves in South Africa and neighboring Namibia for plains zebra that looked most like quaggas. Selective breeding began in 1987, aiming to concentrate the quagga genes in successive generations. The program now has 53 animals, and many are starting to look more and more like quaggas.

SITTING in a laboratory at the South African Museum, Rau says he is driven by the desire to right a terrible wrong.

"The quagga became extinct through man's ignorance and greed. It wasn't a natural occurrence," he said in a clipped German accent. "It is our moral duty to rectify that mistake."

On the lab wall is a poster with rows of pictures of the 24 known stuffed quagga specimens. They are graded according to striping and color.

Rau believes some of the animals in the program could now be compared to examples on the poster. But he shies away from saying he has created a true quagga.

"We are aiming for the center of the range. We will call offspring a quagga when they reach the middle of that range on the poster," he said. The brightest hope is Louis, the scheme's first second-generation foal. Rau believes full quaggas will

emerge by the fourth generation.

Critics say it is impossible to know whether animals produced are true quaggas, since they were never studied by modern science. Aside from color and stripes, no other defining quagga characteristics, such as behavioral patterns or diet, were ever noted and may have been lost to history.

Scientists involved in the scheme accept the point, but argue that – with no living specimens to examine – it is futile to worry about questions that can't be answered.

"It is almost irrelevant," said Professor Eric Harley, a geneticist at the University of Cape Town who works on the project. "If we get an individual that matches coloration and striping, then we can say it is a quagga, because that is the only way we can now define them."

Scientists are divided over why the quagga developed its unusual coat. Many believe the quagga evolved camouflage to match the dusty, sun-burned plains and mountains of the Karoo and avoid predators who would easily spot a black and white animal. Others believe zebra stripes help avoid the disease-carrying tsetse fly, which cannot see objects broken up by patterns.

The Karoo is too dry for the tsetse fly, and so the quagga may simply have begun to shed stripes.

Rau says putting animals from the program back into their natural home was an important step.

"For the first time quaggas in the making are treading that ground again," he said.

(Reuters)

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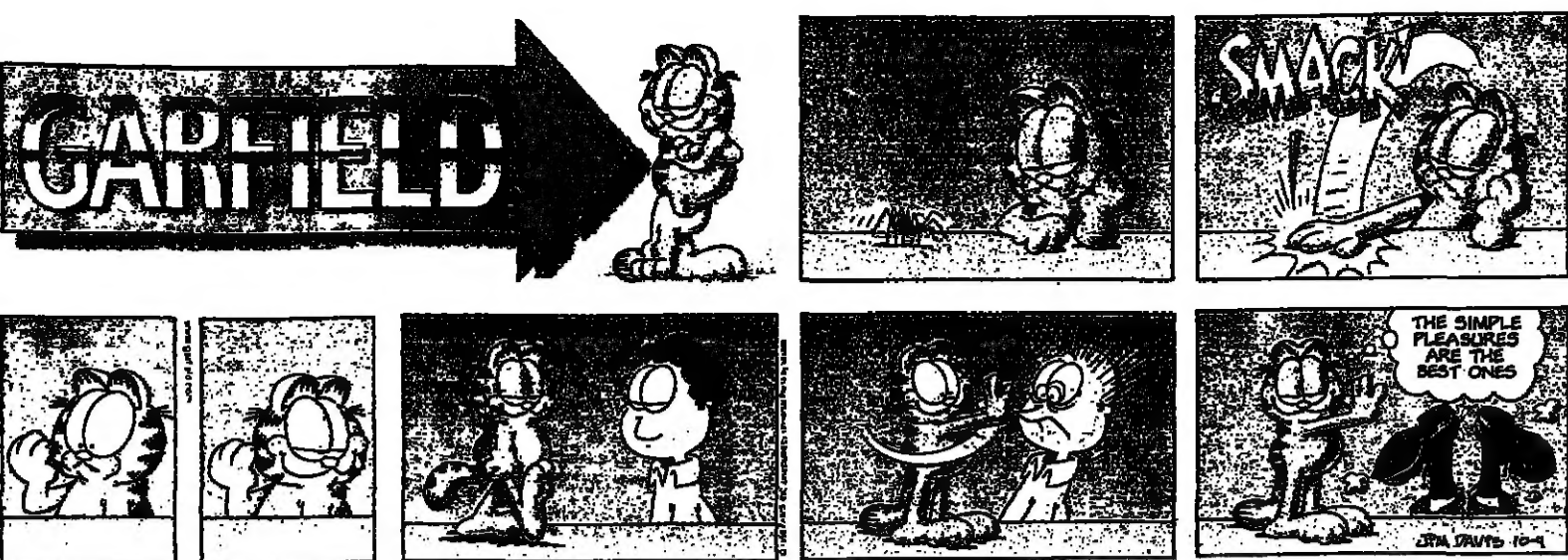
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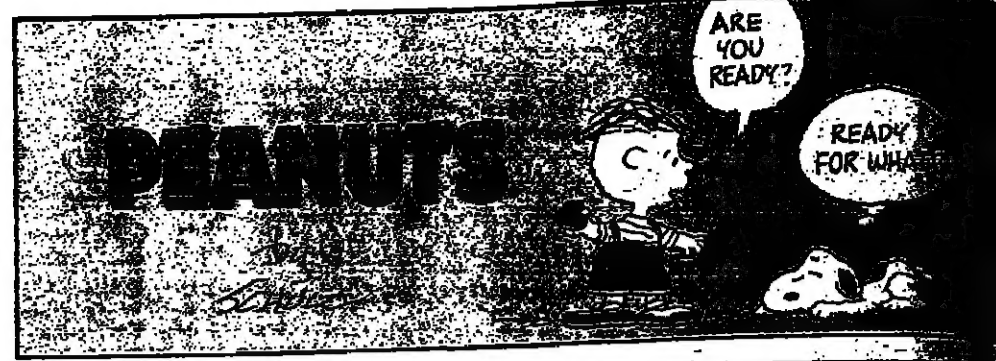
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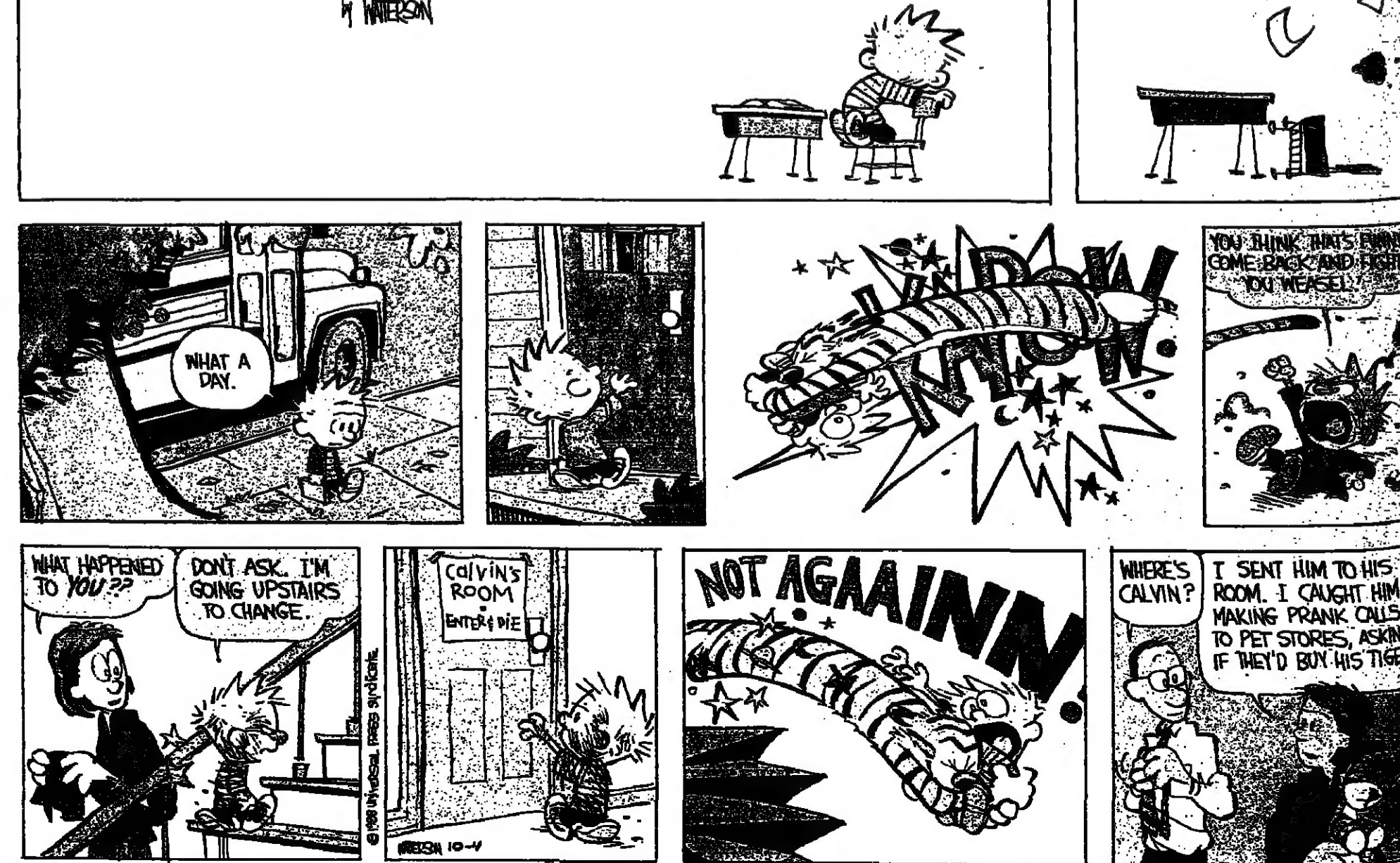
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calvin and hobbes





Jim Thome and Kenny Lofton also slugged solo shots as the Indians brought within one win of another trip to the A.L. Championship Series.

Cleveland's Mike Jackson gave up two runs in the ninth on a Nomar Garciaparra home run before notching his second save in as many games.

Game 4 of the best-of-five series was yesterday at Boston.

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Division Series
Game 3

Cleveland	000 011 101-4-5 0
Boston	000 100 002-3-0 0

Nicky, M. Jackson (9) and S. Alomar; Garciaparra, Cent (8) and J. Thome; Hatzberg, W-Nicky, L-1, S-Garciaparra, 0-1, S-M. Jackson (2), H-Fs-Cleveland, 0-1, S-M. Ramirez 2 (2), Thome (2), Boston, Garciaparra (2).

Game 3

New York	000 004 006-4-9 1
Texas	000 000 000-0-3 1

Cent, Lloyd (8), Nelson (7), M. Rivera (6) and Girard, Sale, Crabtree (7), Westbrook and (1) and Rodriguez, W-Cone, L-1, Sale 0-1, H-Fs-New York, Orville (1), Spencer (2).

people crisscross the state on their way to and from Montreal, New York, Boston and Toronto.

The "Succa of Fame," which will be erected at Cooperstown, is going to be about 10 square feet in size. Students from the school will decorate the structure with traditional fruit, along with less traditional baseballs.

Pictures of famous Jewish baseball players like Sandy Koufax and Hank Greenberg will adorn the walls. And there should be plenty of extra fans at the Hall of Fame to take advantage of the Succa.

The battle between Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa to set the record for the most home runs in a regular season has led to renewed interest in baseball around the US.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (Reuters) — Lenny Wilkens was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame for the second time on Friday, this time as a coach. Could Larry Bird, now enshrined as a player, one day be another dual inductee? Wilkens, inducted in 1989 for his achievements as an NBA player, was among seven enshrinees at the ceremonies. Wilkens, currently coach of the Atlanta Hawks, became the first double inductee from the NBA.

Bird went in as a player after a remarkable career with the Boston Celtics that ended in 1992. His induction came just five months after he was named NBA Coach of the Year in his first season with the Indiana Pacers.

The other inductees were former Harlem Globetrotters guard Marques Haynes, longtime NBA coach Alex Hannum, ex-Rochester Royal and Boston Celtic Arnie Risen, University of Texas women's coach Jody Conradt and former Yugoslav coach Aleksandar Nikolic.

A crowd of 7,000, the largest to view an induction ceremony, was there to see Bird, a three-time NBA Most Valuable Player who led the Celtics to three titles. A 12-time All-Star, he held or shared 27 Celtics records by the time he retired in 1992, making five appearances in the NBA Finals.

"I've always been a very proud individual. I'm very proud I came from a small town, French Lick, Indiana. I'm very proud I spent four years at Terre Haute at Indiana State."

ROME (Reuters) — Alberto Tomba announced his retirement yesterday, leaving Alpine Skiing to start the new season this month without one of its greatest and most charismatic of characters.

After three Olympic gold medals, 50 World Cup wins and a decade of adoration in his native Italy, the 31-year-old Bolognese called it a day relatively quietly.

"I want to communicate officially my decision to end my sporting career," Tomba, 31, said in a statement.

"I have thought long and hard before taking this decision, but I leave skiing with great affection for all those who have followed me over many years and encouraged me to win.

The irreverent Tomba, once the best known party animal in skiing, had effectively announced his intention to retire at the Winter Olympics in Nagano in February, saying he needed to dedicate himself more to his private life.

He failed to add to his medal tally in Japan but went on to win his 50th World Cup race in the finals in Crans Montana, Switzerland, in March when he took the slalom.

That was his last World Cup race and, after the disappointment of Nagano, he leaves as a winner.

After bursting onto the scene in the

"I have a really strong feeling inside that this is just another hill I have to climb."

GENEVA (AP) — Maccabi Haifa.

Switzerland 2, St. Gallen 3	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Huddersfield	12	7	2	3	18	7	23
Stamford	11	5	4	0	25	14	21
Barnum	10	5	5	0	25	16	20
Birmingham	10	6	2	4	15	11	20
Ipswich	11	5	4	2	17	13	19
Walsford	10	6	1	3	16	7	19
Swiss United	12	5	3	4	18	9	18
Molveno	11	5	3	3	14	9	18
Norwich	10	5	2	3	14	11	17
Grimsby	12	4	4	4	15	14	16
Bury	12	4	4	4	9	8	16
St. Gallen	12	3	3	6	16	16	15
Switzerland	12	3	3	3	15	17	15
West Brom	10	4	2	4	19	19	14
Manch. City	11	3	5	3	16	15	14
Crystal Palace	10	4	2	4	12	16	14
Preston	12	3	4	5	10	17	13
Oxford City	12	3	3	6	16	24	12
Brands Hatch	12	2	5	5	10	23	11

Port Vale	11	3	2	6	8	20	11
Crowe	11	2	4	5	15	20	10
Swindon	12	2	3	7	16	25	9
QPR	11	2	3	6	10	18	9
Warrmore	10	0	6	4	6	16	6

Division Three: Cardiff 2, Brighton 0; Carlisle 2, Barnet 1; Darlington 2, Swansea 2; Exeter 2, Mansfield 1; Hull 0, Cambridge United 3; Leyton Orient 1, Hartlepool 1; Peterborough 2, Brentford 4; Rotherham 0, Shrewsbury 1;

Scarborough 2, Chester 4; Scunthorpe 0, Halifax 4; Southend 1, Rochdale 1; Torquay 1, Plymouth 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scunthorpe	11	7	1	3	23	18	22
Wrexham	11	7	0	4	22	15	21
Halifax	11	4	3	2	17	8	21

Darlington	11	6	3	2	15	11	21
Carlisle	11	6	2	3	15	12	20
Plymouth	11	6	2	3	13	7	20
Rotherham	11	6	1	4	10	12	19
Cambridge United	11	6	1	4	17	12	19
Peterborough	11	5	2	4	25	15	17
Chertsey	11	4	4	3	15	17	16

Exeter	11	5	1	5	12	14	16
Swansea	11	4	3	4	15	12	15
Walsfield	11	4	3	4	13	13	15
Southend	11	4	3	4	12	12	15
Hartlepool	11	4	2	3	14	17	14
Scarborough	11	4	1	6	17	17	13
Leyton Orient	11	3	4	4	11	15	13

Torquay	11	3	4	4	10	12	13
Barnst	11	4	6	7	14	23	12
Carlisle	11	3	3	5	12	14	12
Rockdale	11	3	3	5	11	14	12
Brighton	11	3	1	7	8	15	10
Shrewsbury	11	2	2	7	6	16	8
Hull	11	2	1	8	11	23	7

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Villa continue winning, United go second

LONDON (Reuters) - Midfielder Ian Taylor scored twice as Aston Villa stormed six points clear at the top of the English premier league yesterday after a 2-1 win at Coventry City.

Taylor's first-half brace gave unbeaten Villa 20 points from eight games, six more than Manchester United who went second after a 3-0 victory over bogey side Southampton at The Dell.

Tottenham manager George Graham was in the stands as his new club eked out a 1-0 victory at Derby County, while Middlesbrough went third on 12 points after a 4-0 thrashing of Sheffield Wednesday at the Riverside.

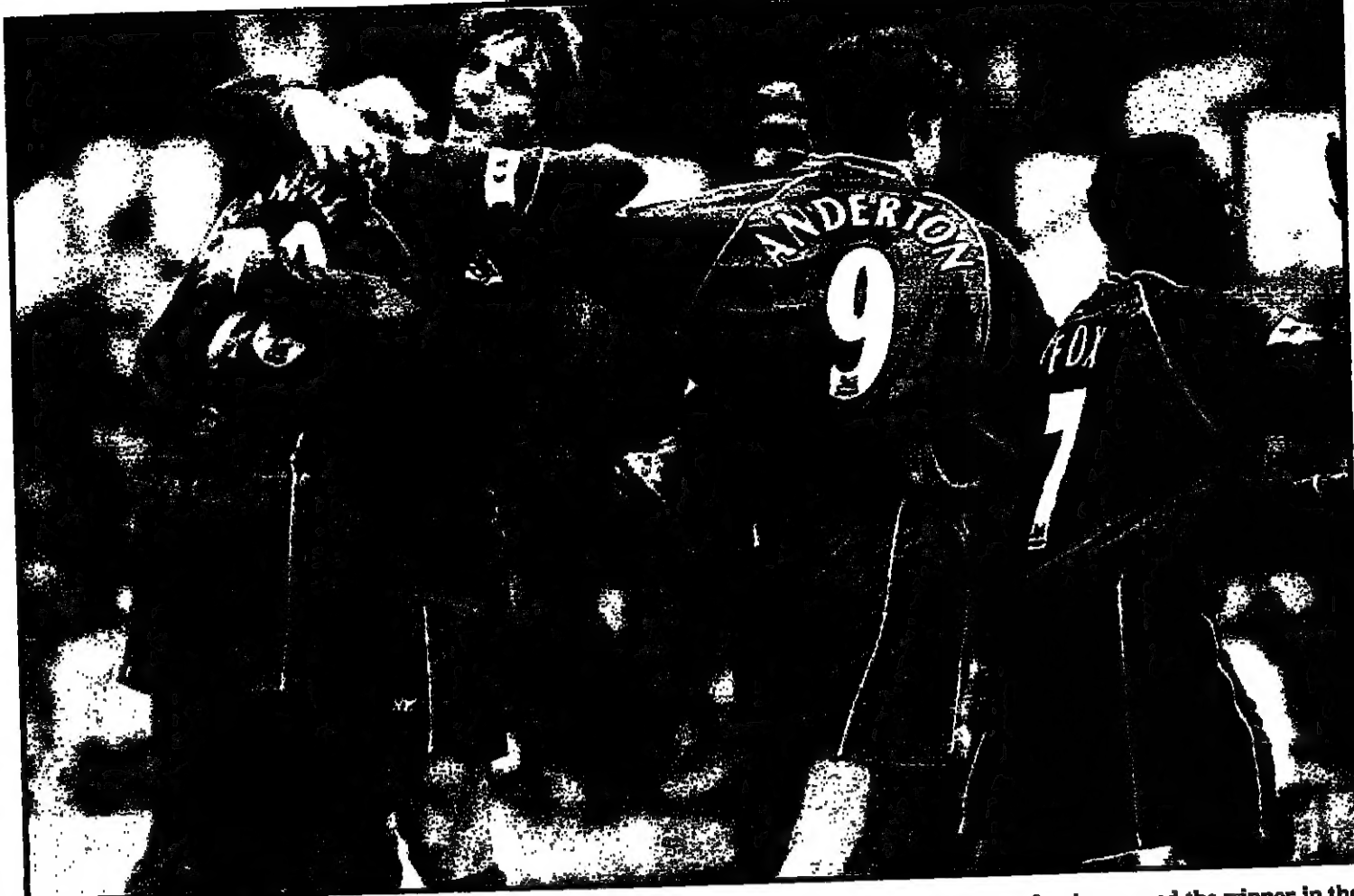
Villa manager John Gregory kept faith with Stan Collymore up front following his midweek hat-trick against Kosice in the UEFA Cup. But it was the hard-working Taylor who made Villa's breakthrough against their Midlands rivals after 29 minutes.

Gary Charles' cross caused confusion and Taylor fired the loose ball into the roof of the net from 10 meters.

Ten minutes later it was 2-0 although there was more than a hint of controversy as an offside-looking Paul Merson raced clear down the right.

Merson squared the ball for Taylor to sidefoot in his second with Coventry's defence nowhere.

Villa continued to create the better chances after the break but Coventry pulled one back through Norwegian substitute Trond Egil Solvetved after 71 minutes. It was the first goal Villa have conceded away



SUCCESS AT LAST - Spurs captain Sol Campbell (left) celebrates with teammate David Ginola after her scored the winner in the Londoners' 1-0 victory over Derby County at Pride Park yesterday.

from home in the league this season. Gregory refused to get carried

away by his team's fine start. "There are a few familiar faces in the chasing pack and (Manchester) United have a game in hand," he said.

United had lost at The Dell on each of their last three visits in the league but quickly showed they had no intention of allowing another slip-up.

Manager Alex Ferguson recalled Andy Cole up front and it was from his cross after 11 minutes that Dwight Yorke poached his fifth goal of the season to put the visitors in front.

Swede Jesper Blomqvist broke clear 14 minutes into the second half to lay on the second for Cole and Dutch substitute Jordi Cruyff

made it 3-0 in the 74th minute with a volley after Cole's shot was blocked.

Graham will have been impressed by Tottenham's defensive resolve in their 1-0 victory over Derby.

Graham, who completed his move from Leeds on Thursday but said he would only take charge of team affairs from Monday, watched

from the stands as Sol Campbell headed in the winner at Pride Park. Leeds lost 1-0 at home to Leicester City, Tony Cottee scoring the goal with 14 minutes left. Tottenham are now 11th, one place behind Leeds who also have 11 points.

Danish striker Mikkel Beck was on target twice as Middlesbrough chalked up their first win of the season at the Riverside against Sheffield Wednesday.

Beck scored after 27 and 45 minutes before Colombian strike partner Hamilton Ricard bagged his eighth of the season to make it 3-0. Former England midfielder Paul Gascoigne curled in a free-kick in the last minute after Wednesday's Andy Hinchcliffe was sent off for hauling down Beck to complete the rout.

Today champions Arsenal play host to Newcastle United and Liverpool play Chelsea.

In Scotland, Kilmarnock eased a point clear at the top of the Scottish premier division after drawing 0-0 at home to struggling Dunfermline Athletic.

Kilmarnock, whose opponents had forward Andy Smith sent off 13 minutes from time, had started the day level on 15 points with Rangers and could rue the missed opportunity to take all three points after their Glasgow rivals host Dundee on Sunday.

Reigning champions Celtic moved in to third place on 13 points after a 2-1 win at Motherwell.

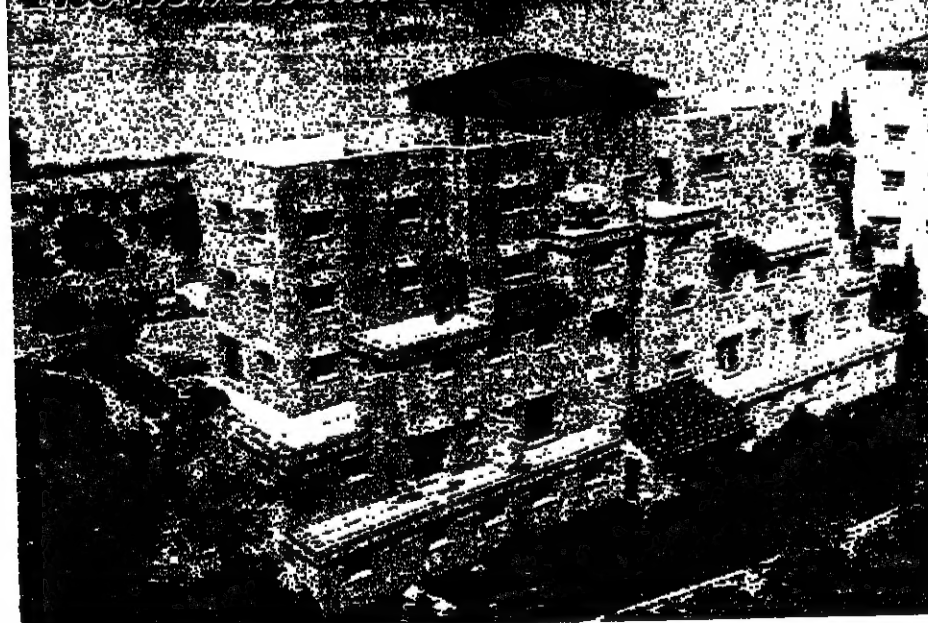
Norwegian striker Harald Brattbakk scored in the 29th and Paul Lambert doubled the tally on the stroke of halftime. Derek Adams scored for Motherwell in the final minute.

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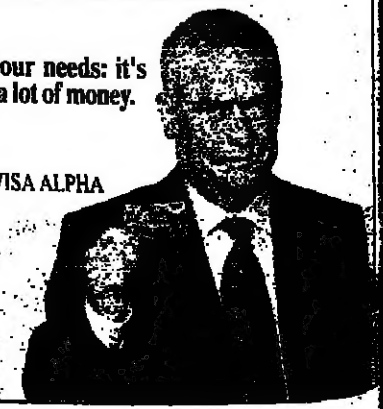
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